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Aiming for high notes for charity

SEE **PAGE 30**

Business bosses get boost from minister

SEE **BUSINESS**

FREE pizzas were given out by three stores in Milton Keynes for an ITV Christmas charity appeal. Instead of payment, Papa John's accepted donations for Text Santa.

Visit **onemk.co.uk** to read more on this story

'Don't drive big cars in MK'

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

IT IS bad news for people with big cars after plans to shrink parking spaces in the city centre were given the green light yesterday.

Drivers in MK will be feeling the squeeze after Labour councillor Matt Clifton, the cabinet member responsible for parking at Milton Keynes Council, went ahead with a £300,000 proposal to redraw parking bays to create more spaces.

The existing average parking space in CMK is 2.44m, but it is set to be reduced to an average of 2.38m – despite cars increasing in size.

Councillor Clifton told MK NEWS: "If you're going to drive an SUV in town then you're going to have problems finding a spot and you may want to think whether that's the best vehicle to drive in the city centre."

On making his decision at a delegated decisions meeting at the Civic Offices yesterday evening, he said he stood by it 'for better or for worse'.

Critics of the scheme say that narrower spaces could be costly for drivers at it will lead to more damage to their vehicles as they try to manoeuvre in and out of tight spots.

However Cllr Clifton claims some spaces may actually get larger as they had been drawn incorrectly in the past.

The scheme will create 235 extra standard purple spaces for city centre employees struggling to find a spot before they start work.

But Alex Walker, the Conservative shadow cabinet member responsible for transport, has said he will 'call in' the decision to try and have it reviewed, then reversed.

He said: "This is a desperate move to make up the 1,000 spaces that were promised by the Labour group.

"It's a double whammy for motorists, who will have to pay for the changes, then pay for the damage to their cars as well.

"I was hoping Labour would listen to the overwhelming opposition and withdraw the decision, so it's a real shame this went through.

"I will be joining others in calling this in and hammer home how unreasonable and frankly wrong the decision is. We must do better for employees and shoppers in CMK."

But Councillor Clifton responded: "The idea that there is no wide space is not the case.

"This is a measure that effects 19 per cent of all of our parking spaces and standardises the width so we can create these spaces that people said we needed more of."

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READY FOR CHRISTMAS? Details you need for the festive season

On the ball: Teams from Interdirect taking part in activities at Bounce to support #GivingTuesday and raise money for MK Community Foundation

Firms take on challlenge

NINE city businesses yesterday took part in snowboarding, trampolining, cycling and climbing in the #GivingTuesday Challenge to raise money for the MK Community Foundation and its Surviving Winter Campaign.

Local businesses Interdirect, Fossil, Jeanius Consulting, Metro Bank, MK College, EMW Law, Revolucion de Cuba, PJ Care and Countrywide all took part to help MK Community Foundation raise money for vulnerable people this winter, following more than 1,000 deaths in Milton Keynes over the past 15 years.

Axe may fall on free school bus services

BY SARAH LEE
editor@mk-news.co.uk

HOME-TO-SCHOOL bus services in Milton Keynes could be scrapped by 2016, a recent council report suggests.

Cost-cutting measures to services were discussed at a Milton Keynes Council cabinet meeting on Monday in a bid to save £91,494 in the next financial year.

Changes to the following services were discussed:

- The removal of free transport to nurseries at Cedars Primary School in Newport Pagnell and Rickley Park Primary School in Bletchley.
- The removal of free transport to High Ash CE Primary School in Great Brickhill from Little Brickhill.
- The removal of free transport to grammar schools in Aylesbury from Little Brickhill.
- The removal of free transport to Cedars Upper School in Newport Pagnell from Woburn Sands.

Currently the services are used by approximately 71 pupils attending the above schools and nurseries.

On MK NEWS' social media pages, Neil Williams said: "I don't think free transport should be provided if people choose not to go to their local school and a place was available at that local school.

"However, as moving school can be harmful to a child's development, I would say this should be phased out, with existing children retaining the free transport but no new applications accepted, until such time as they finish at that school naturally."

Nikki West added: "Cedars upper school in Leighton Buzzard is the feeder school for Fulbrook, Woburn Sands. It's over 10 miles away and 38 students travel free on the bus every day.

"Until there is a local alternative feeder school for Woburn Sands it's not acceptable to remove the free bus."

The council proposes to consult on the moves, which could come into effect from September, 2016, and parents could then choose whether to pay for travel to schools outside the borough themselves or apply for a school place in Milton Keynes.

Councillor Norman Miles, cabinet member for children and school improvement, said: "I want to emphasise that we have not made a decision yet. We are working very hard on how we improve the service, and to also do it in a more cost efficient way."

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A sneak peak: Residents look at artist's impressions of the proposed new housing estate yesterday

Plans revealed for new homes

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A FORMER Aston Martin works site that had been earmarked for a Tesco supermarket is now set to become a housing estate.

Redrow Homes is proposing to submit a full planning application for a residential development at the Tickford Street site in Newport Pagnell, which is vacant and contains empty former manufacturing buildings for Aston Martin.

If approved, there would be 90 to 95 homes on the land, a percentage of which would be affordable housing.

Redrow Homes says the scheme would be a 'high quality, sustainable development'.

Once the planning application has been submitted to Milton Keynes Council, it is likely to take approximately three to four months for a decision to be made.

The site had looked like being home to a supermarket after retail giants Tesco bought the site, but it withdrew the plans in January due to financial difficulties across the whole company.

Just last month MK NEWS revealed how there were hopes plans for the site would speed up, after surveyors had been spotted there.

An exhibition was held at the Swan Revived Hotel in High Street yesterday evening allowing residents to view the plans in more detail.

Ashley Thompson, architect at APT Design Limited, said: "We have a sense it's a much preferred plan than for Tesco. The community have come here to have a peak at the artist's impressions and to get a real sense of what we aim to achieve."

Mr Thompson also confirmed that three historic buildings with frontage on Tickford Street 'will be left alone for the time being for future use' and are not part of the current design.

One resident said: "I'm pleased something is being done because at the moment it's an eyesore. It's nice that the housing plan is in the centre so people are able to walk to the High Street. This will help ease traffic congestion."

MKNEWS BRIEFS

IKEA evacuated

IKEA in Bletchley was evacuated yesterday morning due to a fire in a first-floor kitchen. Firefighters were called to the superstore at 10.53am, but the fire was found to be out on arrival.

Wetherspoon 'keen'

WETHERSPOON has said it is as 'keen as ever' to turn the former Robinsons restaurant in St John Street, Newport Pagnell, into one of its pubs. The company said it would be likely to submit a planning application 'soon'.

Focus on drink drive

THAMES Valley Police has launched its annual campaign against drink driving at Christmas. See more at **www.onemk.co.uk**

Transgender inmate death

A TRANSGENDER inmate who was sent to an all-male prison has been found dead.

It is believed she was found hanging by a prison officer at HMP Woodhill, Milton Keynes, on Friday, November 27 and was pronounced dead two hours later.

Joanne Latham, 38, was serving life for an attempted murder in 2001 after admitting putting mercury from a thermometer into a flatmate's drink.

Since then she has also been sentenced for another attempted murder at HMP Frankland in 2007 and of a fellow patient at the Rampton Secure Hospital in Nottingham in 2011.

Police were called to the prison at 6.30am where it is believed the prisoner had barricaded the door of her cell.

Latham was born male and named Edward but had identified herself as female since August, 2015.

A report is currently being prepared for the coroner's office. A prison service spokesman said: "As with all deaths in custody there will be an investigation by the independent prisons and probation ombudsman."

The news follows the death of transgender prisoner Vicky Thompson from West Yorkshire.

Thompson, 21, was being held at Armley, Leeds – an all-male prison – where she was pronounced dead on Friday, November 13. She had said she would kill herself if she was sent to a male prison.

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MK LETTERS

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This week's photograph of sunrise at Bletchley was taken by Tony Serpini

GET SNAPPING
Send us your favourite pictures of Milton Keynes by emailing:
editor@mk-news.co.uk

Send picture to win a funny prize

HERE at MK NEWS we know the lovely pictures you send in put a smile on our readers' faces so we have joined forces with the award-winning Comedy Cow to keep you smiling.

Each week we will give away two free tickets to upcoming events in one of the club's three venues across MK to the reader who sends in the best picture of our city.
Winners can use their tickets to choose from a host of stars coming to Milton Keynes.
For details on The Comedy Cow's future events visit www.thecomedycow.co.uk

Don't blame all Muslims

THE recent events in Paris have shocked us all. We at the Milton Keynes Council of Faiths condemn the senseless murders of so many people, many of them very young.

We are concerned that some people will try and take out their anger about these events on innocent Muslims here in Milton Keynes, or elsewhere in the UK. They are no more responsible for these terrorist attacks than Christians were for the atrocities of the IRA.

Others are trying to use this tragic event to say we in the West shouldn't help the Syrian refugees, but we need to remember that they are fleeing the same people. Only the day before the Paris attack there was an attack in Beruit.

We understand that there will be increased anxieties about the safety of Muslim communities and we of all faiths want them to know they have our support.

Milton Keynes Council of Faiths works to increase understanding about and between faith communities and to encourage and support good inter faith relations. As part of this it has always underlined the enormous importance of the contribution that faith communities make to Milton Keynes.

The different faiths communities live well together in MK and long may it continue.

John Robertson, vice-chairman
On behalf of MK Council of Faiths

Times have changed

THERE was a time when Old Stratford was a busy and friendly community, where most of the people worked in nearby Wolverton and even women could escape the tedious housework and be employed either at the railway business, The Works, as they used to call it, or at the printing company.

As short a time ago as about 30 years the village still had three shops providing daily necessities and three petrol stations to cater for the increasing number of motorists.

Now, the petrol stations have vanished and the only shop has had its business severely reduced. Some things are growing, as the sign at the entrance, on the bridge, indicates.

Houses are coming up on every possible piece of land and the amount of metal used around the village could keep a mine going, from the heavy and ugly enclosure around the Memorial Hall to the row of bollards on the main road.

I wonder if next they will be fencing the river in case children could fall in.

No, it is not going to be a risk since children do not go fishing or climb trees any more, busy as they are indoors tapping away at their games . . . also they could not climb trees because the 'lungs of the planet' are disappearing fast in Old Stratford.

First it was the willows, as if children would choose their funny shapes to climb, then the big one near the Memorial Hall, and even the little sapling growing out of the cut trunk was brutally decapitated and now it is the tall one in the car park of the pub.

And they call this strip 'a conservation area' . . . soon there will be very little to conserve, considering the damage the heavy traffic of lorries and the rest is doing to even the sturdiest of the old buildings.

We are not against progress, but why not try to adjust the new ways to an existing shape and the needs and wishes of its people?

The voice of the community is never listened to and the points raised in the big questionnaire of a few years ago are just pages gathering dust, paper that used to be trees.

What a sad end for the thriving community that Old Stratford used to be and we only had a glimpse of it from the documents lining the wall in the old hall.

PaoLa Lamborghini
Sent via email

Action on pharmacies

I WOULD like to reply to a letter in the paper last week regarding the changes by the NHS to the Essential Small Pharmacies Contracts.

I can assure residents that I have made representations to the NHS on this matter.

Bliep Pharmacy in Bletchley delivered a petition to my office in August, which was sent directly to the NHS for their consideration.

I can also assure residents I will continue to put all the pressure I can on the NHS to convey just how important small pharmacies are to communities.

Iain Stewart MP

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Appeal: Hayden Milford, aged three, with mum Paula and pre-school manager Jane Shiells

Pre-school plea over slabs

A PRE-SCHOOL is appealing to businesses, volunteers or any other organisation to help it rebuild a pavement that is causing children to fall over.

Paula Milford, a committee member at Great Holm Pre-School, says it can't afford to relay the broken pavement slabs itself. The mum-of-two, whose son Hayden attends the pre-school, added: "It's concerning because the little ones are falling over while playing outside."

Jane Shiells, Great Holm Pre-School leader, added: "We just want the children to be safe."

A spokesman at Milton Keynes Council said: "Great Holm management committee received funding of £8,950 for 2015/16 and they are eligible to apply for further funding in March 2016. An additional one-off grant payment of £6,000 was also made to the facility. The management committee spent this money on refurbishing the ladies, gents and disabled toilets. Perhaps this money could have gone towards replacing the paving slabs."

If you can help, call Ms Shiells on 01908 566459.

New moves 'will make taxis safer'

BY CHRIS KNIGHT
editor@mk-news.co.uk

MEASURES to improve the safety of taxi passengers in the city are being introduced in the wake of the rapist taxi driver scandal.

Former mayor Subhan Shafiq resigned in August, 2014, after it was revealed he had provided a character reference for convicted rapist Nadeem Ahmed Kiani that helped him secure his taxi licence.

The scandal received national attention and new measures from Milton Keynes Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy will take effect from January 1, 2016, as a result.

Drivers will be encouraged to install CCTV in their vehicles and they will be required to take a further driving test when their taxi licences are up for renewal.

Councillor Catriona Morris, chairman of the council's regulatory and licensing committee, believes the new measures will ensure the public have 'complete confidence' when using taxis.

She said: "We need to promote using taxis in Milton Keynes is safe after what happened.

"Everything in the policy is to do with the safety of both the passenger and the driver and to make an improvement to the existing service.

"As I keep saying to the drivers, they are a really important part of the Milton Keynes society as they will often be the first person residents and visitors encounter in the city."

All drivers applying for their taxi licence will also be expected to provide evidence of their level of English, or take a test if they are unable to offer sufficient proof.

"In December, 2014, we made the first amendments and strengthened the policy that already existed," said Cllr Morris. "Since then, we have been in consultation with customers and members of the trade on ways to improve the policy. Hopefully, we are at a point where it is now at its strongest."

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Local centre assault

A MAN suffered a head injury and required hospital treatment after being assaulted by another male outside the local centre in Netherfield yesterday. Call police on 101.

Social care charter

MILTON Keynes Council's cabinet has endorsed the UNISON Ethical Care Charter, which commits the authority to setting high standards in social care services.

Pregnancy flu jabs

MILTON Keynes Council and Milton Keynes Clinical Commissioning Group are urging pregnant women to get vaccinated against flu. Read more at **onemk.co.uk**

Giant slide on course for MK

EUROPE'S largest inflatable slide is coming to Milton Keynes along with CBeebies presenter Alex Winters as part of a fun run course.

Gung-Ho! – a fun 5k run thought up by Alex – was launched earlier this year and saw thousands of people taking part in three initial events around the country.

Now, he is bringing the course to Milton Keynes to give locals the chance to show how 'Gung-Ho!' they are and take part in the event – which features 10 huge inflatables – when it arrives at Willen Lake in July.

Alex said: "People have really embraced Gung-Ho! It's a really fun challenge."

Man exposes himself to girls

A MAN exposed himself to two 12-year-old girls near Jubilee Wood Primary School in Fishermead on Friday.

Two men were walking in front of the girls in Fishermead Boulevard between 8am and 8.15am when one of them turned around and exposed himself.

The man who exposed himself is white, about 5ft 7ins, in his 30s, with blond hair and stubble. He was wearing a dark blue or navy zip up coat and grey joggers.

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With over 33% of the UK population suffering back or neck pain at any one time, and all the problems it brings, it makes sense to take care of your spine. A large number of people seem to think that pain killers or a sheet of exercises are the only options available to them. Well don't worry, that is simply not the case. There is another option and evidence from extensive research shows it to be a very plausible way for many people to get their problem dealt with. The answer, visit a Chiropractor.

Gary Jackson with patients Pete Winkelman, Chairman of MK Dons and Karl Robinson the Manager of MK Dons

Milton Keynes Chiropractic Clinic in Fenny Stratford, near Bletchley opened ten years ago and since then has gone from strength to strength, offering care for patients that suffer from problems as varied as low back pain, cervicogenic headaches, neck pain, prevention of migraines as well as problems of the shoulder, foot, knee and hip conditions and arthritic pain.

Principal practitioner and Doctor of Chiropractic, Gary D Jackson said "I am immensely pleased with the growing success of our clinic and incredibly proud of our splendid reputation. Most patients come to us as a direct result of word of mouth recommendations from other patients who are impressed with the service we offer. For patients to heartily recommend us like this I am truly grateful, it shows that our clinics approach to patient care is structured correctly and I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to all of those patients that have recommended us to their friends, family, colleagues and sporting team-mates over the last 10 wonderful years in Milton Keynes.

I have had the privilege of treating a wide variety of patients over the years, from children to people in their 90's and they come to me for a wide variety of problems and reasons. I have found that a lot of people benefit from having chiropractic spinal check-ups and in particular it can assist people that perform sports at amateur as well as professional levels.

By ensuring spinal joints are functioning as effectively as possible I have assisted patients in all types of sporting fields ranging from speedway riders, rugby players, martial artists and golf players through to dancers and ice-hockey players.

I am proud to be the official chiropractor for the MK Dons football team, and indeed am now in my 8th year in that role. It has been a great pleasure to work alongside the medical team at the club and I have enjoyed getting to know them as well as get to know and also treat the management of the club as well as the players over those years. They are an incredibly dedicated team and train to a very high level. I am on-board not just in-case they have any particular injuries but also to do what we call a 'top to toe MOT', which basically is a term I use for a preventative spinal check up. This is so as to ensure all joints are working as well as possible instead of just waiting till there is a problem that needs dealing with.".

A large UK trial funded by the Medical Research Council in 1990 concluded that Chiropractic Treatment was more effective than hospital outpatient management, mainly for patients with chronic or severe back pain. A follow up trial in 1995 confirmed that patients with low back pain treated by Chiropractors derive more benefit and long term satisfaction than those treated by hospitals.

When asked why Milton Keynes Chiropractic Clinic has become such a popular and successful clinic, Gary gave the following reasons:

" Firstly we are passionate about what we do, I personally feel that is an absolutely crucial component in being a good chiropractor and I always look for that in anyone who wishes to practice in my clinic.

Also all of my associates have graduated from chiropractic colleges that taught them multiple chiropractic techniques and every one of the Doctors of Chiropractic in my clinic are qualified to take and read x-rays. Indeed we actually have an x-ray suite at the clinic which means we can perform this here without any delays of onward referrals.

People are often of the misconception that all chiropractors do is 'click' joints. Not true, there are many different types of treatment approaches that fall within the broad spectrum of chiropractic care at our clinic. We are trained in many different chiropractic techniques from very mild and gentle techniques, and soft tissue techniques, perfect for the very young or very old through to very specific manipulation techniques, which chiropractors call an 'adjustment', that are aimed at freeing up locked joints, for example, in athletes and people who's job postures have caused stubborn problems. My associates are all competent, capable, fully qualified professional Doctors of Chiropractic and I am proud of every one of them. We are all members of the British Chiropractic Association and registered with and abide by the rules and code of conduct of the General Chiropractic Council.

Often a new patient comes to us because of pain and of course that is what we are know for treating however, we don't just focus on pain but also on prevention. We focus on postural advice, ergonomic advice as well as giving exercises as well as advice regarding simple and achievable modifications to lifestyle. This attention to preventative detail is equally as important a part of the completeness of the service we offer here. Once we have successfully treated a patients problem we take the approach that prevention is better than cure, it can also be a lot more cost effective for the patient.Many patients have commented that they like the fact that our clinic offers a full one hour, un-rushed initial consultation. Others have expressed that they really like the fact that they actually receive their first treatment, or that we take x-rays instead if necessary, as part and parcel of the first appointment without any unnecessary delays. Others have commented on how beneficial it is that we are open until 9pm during the week and available at the weekend too. We always strive to offer the very best of care and service and aim to continue to do so in the next ten years and beyond."

Milton Keynes Chiropractic Clinic can be contacted on

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Wild winter treat: Youngsters were able to meet actors dressed as a squirrel and a deer

Surprised shoppers 'go wild'

VISITORS to MK1 shopping and leisure park had a surprise on Saturday when they bumped into animal characters as part of a My Wild Winter event.

Actors, dressed as a red squirrel and a deer, mingled with onlookers as they watched ice sculpting demonstrations and enjoyed the free activities.

As well as watching some of the UK's finest ice-sculptors, a few visitors were able to try their hand at ice sculpting after winning an MK1 competition.

Victims locked out in burglary

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A MAN has been sentenced to two years and four months in prison – after he locked a mother and her child out of the house while he burgled it.

Matthew Morris, 38, of no fixed address, pleaded guilty at Amersham Crown Court on Friday to one count of burglary.

On July 3, Morris entered a house in Genesis Green, Ashland, by forcing his way into the rear of the property.

When the victim returned home at around 3.30pm with her child, she found the front door locked from the inside.

She called police and Morris was seen walking from the back garden and leaving the scene in a vehicle.

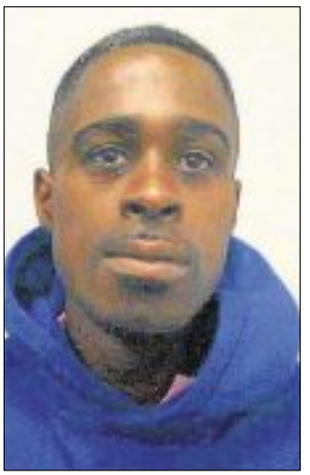
He had stolen a games console.

Morris was arrested on July 27 and charged a day later. On Friday, he was sentenced to 28 months' imprisonment and ordered to pay £900 costs.

PC Jacqui Baverstockm, from Local CID at Milton Keynes Police Station, said: "I am very pleased with this outcome.

"This was a particularly distressing incident for the victim and her son, who disturbed the defendant in their property.

"Burglary can have a devastating impact on victims and Thames Valley Police is committed to preventing and detecting this type of offence."



Jailed: Matthew Morris has been sent to jail after locking a mother and child out of their house while he burgled it

Action called off but ops still lost

PATIENTS at Milton Keynes University Hospital had their operations cancelled – despite a 24-hour strike by junior doctors being called off yesterday.

The British Medical Association agreed to suspend the walk-out following a last-minute agreement hours before the strike was meant to begin at 8am yesterday.

But it was too late for the hospital – with a number of operations having already been cancelled.

A spokesman for Milton Keynes University Hospital said yesterday: "Due to the short notice given for the cancellation of the junior doctors' industrial action, Milton Keynes University Hospital will go ahead with its contingency plans for this period and those planned appointments and operations that were postponed will remain postponed.

"All of those patients whose appointments were cancelled were notified in advance to give them sufficient notice.

"Patients do not need to contact the hospital to rearrange their appointments, we will contact those affected as soon as possible."

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Most wanted men

AFTER an estimated £650,000 in jewellery was stolen from Fraser Hart in the centre:mk on November 21, MK NEWS has taken a look at Crimestoppers' most wanted criminals in MK.

Among the list for Buckinghamshire's most wanted on crimestoppers-uk.org they are all men and are wanted in connection with a variety of crimes, including robbery and indecent exposure.

Anyone who has any information in relation to the crimes is urged to contact police on 101.

Wanted in connection with car theft:
Two men are being sought after a black BMW Mini was stolen in Aylesbury Street, Bletchley. Two men were spotted acting suspiciously around the car park at the rear of a business in Aylesbury Street before the Mini was stolen.

Wanted for robbery:
Thames Valley Police are appealing for witnesses to a robbery in which the victim, aged 19, was kicked and stamped on at the bridge in Campbell Park at around 9pm on Thursday, August 6. His mobile phone taken.

Wanted for assault:
On March 23, 2015 a female was hit by a flying glass in Revolution Vodka Bar, Central Milton Keynes.

Wanted for indecent exposure:
A man indecently exposed himself twice to a group of friends in the Furzton Lake area of Milton Keynes.

Wanted for indecent exposure:
A man indecently exposed himself on June 18 at Chaffron Way, Leadenhall, to two 14-year-old girls.

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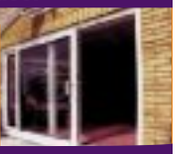

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School nursery plan for rectory

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

Change of use: The Old Rectory could become a children's nursery

AN ELIZABETHAN rectory worth nearly £2million could be converted into a children's nursery.

The Old Rectory, in High Street, Great Linford, has been earmarked to become a pre-school for up to 70 children aged up to four.

The Grade II-listed building, which used to be the home for a religious leader, is set within two acres of gardens.

A change-of-use planning application has been submitted to Milton Keynes Council.

The seven-bedroom rectory had been put up for sale for £1.8million in 2013, but it's now off the market.

Hoping to see it turned into a nursery is Hilary Pauley, who is also headteacher of the Milton Keynes Preparatory School and helps run a number of other schools.

Hilary said: "We first came across the building in the summer and it's lovely."

But some concerns have already been raised by neighbours about potential traffic problems caused by the nursery, which would be open from 7.30am to 6.30pm.

Sam Crooks, a councillor for Great Linford Parish Council, said: "It's a busy corner as it is neighbouring the pub, so I think access to the site will be something that has to be considered."

But Hilary responded: "I'm sure one of the concerns the village will have is an increase in traffic and we understand no-one wants that.

"But we will go out of our way to make sure that doesn't happen because we so desperately need nursery places in Milton Keynes."

The new headteacher of the school would be offered accommodation in one of the wings of the rectory, which dates from the early 17th century.

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Billy Harley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Bedford, Milton Keynes & Leighton Buzzard areas and Billy is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Billy a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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Donate selection boxes to appeal

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

MK NEWS is calling on the community in Milton Keynes to support our Christmas Selection Box Appeal and help us beat last year's total of more than 800.

As previously reported, this year's charity is Emily's Star, set up in memory of Emily Mainwaring who was born with Trisomy 18 and died just 26 days after she was born.

The charity was set up by Emily's mum, Katie Elmer, who wants to raise awareness of Trisomy 18 – otherwise known as Edwards Syndrome – which is a serious genetic chromosomal abnormality.

Emily's Star grants wishes to families who have a child with any life-limiting or life-threatening illness and has also provided 1,000 neonatal boxes, which include items for mums and premature or underweight babies.

Katie, 29, from Bancroft, said: "This year we reached the £100,000 mark and had a big celebration – I never thought we would get there.

Charity founder: Emily's mum Katie Elmer, *right*, with volunteers

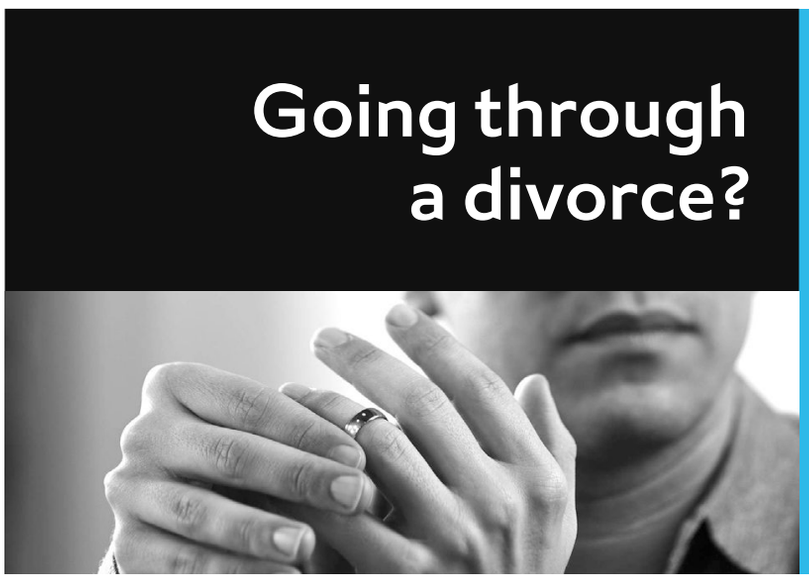
"When I started it was just to support the nurses that helped me and the children under their care. But now it is quite surreal that we are helping people and even Birmingham Neonatal Unit, the biggest in the UK.

"I have met people that say 'Oh, you are Katie, I have had one of your boxes' and I never thought it would be like this.

"Recently our liaison officer Darcy has been able to give iPads to families with children in wheelchairs and special seats. For a little boy called Joey, aged 3, this meant for the first time he could play with his brother unaided, leaving his mother in tears."

Last year MK NEWS' appeal collected 833 selection boxes for The Henry Allen Trust – set up in memory of the four-year-old from Bletchley who died from cancer in 2013.

Instead of buying Christmas cards this year for friends or co-workers why not support our appeal by donating a selection box instead? They can be dropped off at our office at 1 Diamond Court in Fox Milne (MK15 0DU).



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Dons fans net title of the best behaved

BY JAMES AVERILL

james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

All the latest Dons news: Turn to sport from p67 Visit onemk.co.uk/sport

Fan-tastic: MK Dons supporters joint best behaved in the country

MK DONS supporters were the joint best behaved in the whole country during their promotion campaign in League One last season.

They were one of only two sets of fans – the other being Crawley Town – not to have had a single football-related arrest during the campaign.

Things went well for Karl Robinson's side on the pitch in 2014/15 with a thumping 4-0 win over Manchester United in the League Cup, as well as securing automatic promotion to the Championship for the first time in the club's history.

And the Dons fans kept up their end of the bargain off the pitch by showing impeccable behaviour.

The results meant MK Dons were not just the best in the league, but one of the joint best behaved in the whole country with just one incident of note – a solitary banning order.

Other clubs ranking as the joint best behaved in the league were Yeovil Town, Accrington Stanley, Burton Albion and Cheltenham Town.

However, the figures were only for matches up until September 8 – and do not take into account a recent game at Queens Park Rangers where seven people were arrested after a fight broke out in the away end.

An MK Dons spokesman said: "The fans showed exemplary behaviour throughout last season and it is clearly evident that this had a positive impact on results on the pitch.

"The supporters can be very proud of their conduct last season. Such behaviour will continue to be a critical factor towards accelerating the growth in our support, both home and away."

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MK – Stansted	£72.50	£82.50	£92.50	£140.00
MK – East Midlands	£72.50	£82.50	£92.50	£140.00
MK – St Pancras (Eurostar)	£85.00	£100.00	£110.00	£145.00
MK – London City	£85.00	£100.00	£110.00	£150.00
MK – Gatwick	£97.50	£112.50	£122.50	£175.00
MK – Southampton Cruise	£140.00	£150.00	£170.00	£230.00

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After 8 Safe Hut: Volunteers make a night out in Milton Keynes a safer experience for festive revellers

Safe hut back in city

BY STAFF REPORTER
editor@mk-news.co.uk

THIS month will see the After 8 Safe Hut making a return to Central Milton Keynes for a seventh year.

Located outside Xscape, the hut is run by Milton Keynes City Centre Management's (MKCCM) After 8 group, in association with SaferMK, to make sure those on a night out stay safe.

On busy nights from Friday to Thursday, December 31, teams of volunteers will be on hand to help revellers with any medical needs, give advice and hand out essential items.

Last year, 590 people were seen by the hut's volunteers, which led to a saving of £7,000 to the NHS.

Essential items including 85 pairs of flip flops, 90 bottles of water and 50 condoms were handed out by 22 helpers who donated 125 hours of their time.

City centre manager Melanie Beck said: "As custodians of the city, it is always important to work hard in positively promoting and keeping Central Milton Keynes safe.

"The work done by our After 8 volunteers over the years means those enjoying their festive celebrations are a little safer thanks to the enormous amount of goodwill enabling the safe hut to run."

MK NEWS reporter Jessica Duncan, who will be volunteering on Friday night, said: "My experience volunteering last year was so eye-opening.

"We saw so many partygoers who had lost their shoes, or who were walking around cold and lost, and we were able to help them by giving them some flip flops, or getting them into a taxi."

There are still volunteer slots available.

If you'd like to help at this year's safe hut email MKCCM at info@mkccm.org or call 01908 395011 to find out more information.

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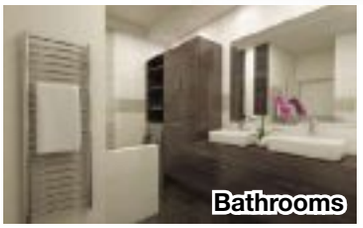
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If it's happening in Milton Keynes, it's on

oneMK.co.uk

Former school is 'in need of a little TLC'

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

AN IMPORTANT historical building in Olney is in need of some 'tender loving care' after it went unsold at a recent house auction.

The property in High Street South is the birthplace of Thomas Wright, the last private school master of Olney who was also a local historian and author.

Mr Wright was born in the house in May, 1859 but later turned it into the Cowper School – a private school that opened in 1882 and was the first to take in girl as well as boy pupils.

The school became so successful that by 1898 he had to build a new classroom, which acted as a wing to the house.

But 116 years on, the building is up for sale and in need of some care, after it was put up for auction in October but wasn't bought.

Alex Grant is a negotiator for Auction House, the company looking after the sale.

He told MK NEWS: "It has been on the market since about August and would be perfect for someone wishing to let it. It's still available for about £180,000 and we'll be looking to put it up for auction again in the spring if we haven't agreed a sale by then.

"We were very surprised it didn't sell because we had had a lot of interest in it up until that point. It's still in good condition – it just needs a little TLC."

Mike Neale, who runs the Olney and District Historical Society, added: "It would be nice to get the building's future sorted as obviously it's of big historical importance to Olney."

The Cowper and Newton Museum, which opened in 1900 with the help of Mr Wright, will be holding an exhibition on him when it re-opens its doors on February 9 – with volunteers getting into the Victorian spirit by dressing up for the day.

Historical building: The old Cowper School is up for sale in Olney, which was opened in 1882 by Thomas Wright, *inset*

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MKNEWS

Chance to be a VIP

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

THE first MK Christmas Party will be providing the red carpet treatment for revellers to help get them into the festive spirit.

Helping to put on the show, at the ArenaMK, will be Impact Production Services (IPS), which recently set up the display at the London premiere of James Bond's Spectre.

James Mason, managing director of IPS, said: "It is important for us to fulfil our client's expectations.

"We have created staging and lighting for bands like Kaiser Chiefs, Razorlight, Basement Jaxx and Annie Mac.

"At the Spectre premiere it was four hard day's work for a few hours carpet action, but it was great."

As well as an incredible stage there will be a full feature wall, bringing indoors the magic of Christmas, including snow.

As previously reported, the event on Saturday, December 19, will feature music acts aimed to get you into the Christmas spirit with live performances from Atomic Kitten, Imagination, Kenny Thomas, Jocelyn Brown and Kym Mazelle.

Performing: Atomic Kitten, Jocelyn Brown and Kym Mazelle

The night will be supporting The Henry Allen Trust and may also include some special guests yet to be announced who support the charity.

With Christmas nibbles and what promises to be the best burgers in town, there will be party food galore.

There will also be bars open throughout the night.

If you want a really special experience with a premium view of the music acts, you could take a VIP package and be on the MK NEWS and

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at Christmas party

Red carpet: Helping put on the MK Christmas Party will be Impact Production Services, which set up the display at the London premiere of the latest James Bond spectacular, Spectre

OneMK balcony.

The VIP packages, costing £38.50 per person, include exclusive access to the MK News/OneMK Christmas Party Lounge with six large screens projecting live images of the stage and show throughout the evening, a Christmas buffet and two private bars.

This exclusive offer includes access to the official after party too.

So why not get your friends or colleagues together and let your hair down at The MK Christmas Party?

Doors open at 6pm, the concert starts at 7pm and the evening ends at midnight.

Tickets are available from £28.50 per person. Visit www.onemk.co.uk for more details.

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Braving the weather: Crowds turned out to take part in the Stony Stratford Lantern Festival

Lights draw crowds

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

THOUSANDS of people braved the wind and rain to welcome in the festive season across the weekend.

Both Stony Stratford and Newport Pagnell held their lights switch-on events on Saturday evening, when residents gathered to celebrate Christmas approaching.

Residents of Stony Stratford turned out in force to enjoy the evening, as the High Street was lined with fresh food, craft stalls and fairground attractions from Keith Emmett and Sons.

And the crowds were kept entertained in the Market Square as the annual WatlingFest offered up live music throughout the day.

And hundreds of people designed Alice in Wonderland lanterns to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the tale in the annual Lantern Festival.

Sharon Roberts told MK NEWS: "We were all there braving the weather in Stony. It was great.

"We followed it with a nice warm carvery and a glass of wine. It was lovely spending time all together."

Meanwhile, in Newport Pagnell there were dancers from Portfields School and Diamonds Theatre School who kept the punters interested ahead of the evening switch-on.

And despite the weather being a potential pitfall, thousands still crowded onto the streets for the celebration.

There will be further celebrations this weekend when Wolverton holds its annual lantern festival, and the lights are switched on in Bletchley. For more information turn to MK LIFE from page 41.

And for a full list of Christmas events including lights, markets and fayres, visit our Christmas section at **www.onemk.co.uk**

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The service has returned for its fourth year, and is available daily until Christmas Eve by the customer information desk at the shopping centre.

Shelley Peppard, general manager, said: "The service will be running more frequently this year so we hope that'll mean lots of money for all of the very worthy charities that are taking part."

'Pathetic' event ends with refund

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

CUSTOMERS left fuming at a 'pathetic' Christmas event at Woburn Abbey will be offered a full refund after organisers apologised for the debacle.

Luminaries Woburnensis was billed as a show with 'animated fire sculptures, a black light trail and more than 30 boutique stalls'.

But instead, children were left comparing one of the sculptures to a 'man in a wheelchair being set on fire'.

Dylan Jeavons, a visitor to the event, told MK NEWS: "Went to this and it was a total waste of time and money at £11 a ticket.

"Woburn should be ashamed of themselves, it really was a pathetic effort."

Visitors also complained at the huge queues to get in and a spokesman for Woburn Abbey and Gardens confirmed: "Unfortunately we experienced some issues with this year's Luminaries Woburnensis event.

"Despite preparation to accommodate the expected increase in visitor numbers we found that much of our preparation proved fruitless when faced with the inclement weather.

"We are very disappointed that all of the hard work that our staff did put into this event resulted in such an unrewarding experience for visitors. We would like to sincerely apologise to all of our visitors and will be offering a full refund for the event."

Organisers will be in touch with people who contacted them individually by the end of today.

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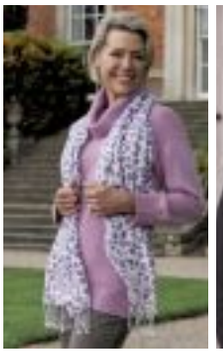

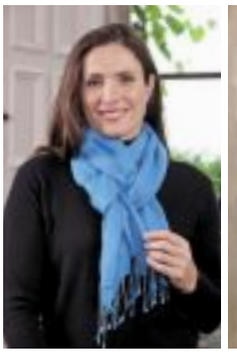

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Strike: Union representatives taking action outside the OU council meeting at Walton Hall

Fears for OU centre

BY SARAH LEE
editor@mk-news.co.uk

MEMBERS of the University and College Union (UCU) at the Open University in Milton Keynes are concerned for the future of the education centre following the decision to close seven regional centres across the UK.

Union members staged a one-day walk-out last Wednesday following the university's decision to push ahead with plans to close some regional centres, putting 502 jobs at risk.

The strike was the first time staff have taken action over a local dispute in the university's history.

The seven centres earmarked for closure are in Cambridge, Leeds, Bristol, Birmingham, Gateshead, London and Oxford.

Dr Caitlin Adams, research and enterprise manager at the Open University in Milton Keynes, said: "Now the closures have been approved, jobs from the seven regions are expected to move to Manchester, Nottingham and Milton Keynes – so in the short-term this would create new jobs at the Milton Keynes site.

"However, as the senate vote showed, there is considerable concern among staff about long-term damage to the quality of student support and recruitment.

"That could ultimately mean a smaller OU in future, which would be very bad news for the Milton Keynes campus and for opportunities in higher education."

After the decision was taken last Tuesday, UCU Open University branch president Pauline Collins said: "It is deeply disappointing that the university has chosen to push ahead with these widely criticised plans.

"The closures are opposed by staff, students, former students and politicians. Our senate, which is the academic body of the university, rejected the plans as high risk and failing to support the mission of the university.

"Nobody wants to take strike action, but we have now been left with no alternative."

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‘Magical’ movie of dance wins award

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A FILM of a stunning dance performance in Milton Keynes has won a movie prize.

Choreographer Rosemary Lee and film-maker Roswitha Chesher have won the Light Moves Festival Prize for Liquid Gold is the Air.

The film is a live incarnation of the Under The Vaulted Sky dance, which was performed in the Cathedral of Trees in Newlands at the IF: Milton Keynes International Festival last summer.

The performance was funded by The Stables after it received a £215,000 award from Arts Council England.

Rosemary said: “Roswitha and I are so thrilled that the film has been recognised in this way.

“Liquid Gold is the Air could not have happened without the IF commission, the amazing and generous contribution of the performers and the entire creative team – the award is for each and every one of those people.”

Monica Ferguson, chief executive and artistic director of IF: Milton Keynes International Festival, added: “This is brilliant news for Rosie, Roswitha and the team.

“It is a profoundly beautiful piece and a lasting legacy from the breathtaking site-specific dance performances of Under The Vaulted Sky at the 2014 Festival.”

Light Moves said it had chosen to award the overall festival prize to a film that is ‘profoundly generous in its embrace of wonder, beauty and the collective spirit’.

They added that the film is ‘both delicate and strong, magical yet profoundly tangible and above all full of hope’.

The film was also shortlisted for Most Innovative Use of Sound at Light Moves and for Best Cinematography at the prestigious Under Wire Festival.

Top award: Under the Vaulted Sky was performed at the Cathedral of Trees

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MPs support air strikes in Syria

BY CHRIS KNIGHT
editor@mk-news.co.uk

THE city's MPs have backed Government plans to launch air strikes against Islamic State (IS) militants in Syria – in the same week a protest against the move was held in CMK.

The Government is due to vote today on whether to bomb the war-torn country – a move rejected by Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn

Mark Lancaster, MP for Milton Keynes North, said: "A Government's first duty is to protect and provide security for its citizens. Having served in three conflicts myself, extending our military action to Syria and not just Iraq is not a decision that I would take lightly.

"Crucially though, I will support an extension of our military action against ISIL, not just because they operate in both countries, but because doing so is an essential part of a wider overarching strategy.

Iain Stewart, MP for Milton Keynes South, added: "I completely agree with the points Mark has stated. I thought the Prime Minister made a rational and convincing case of the need to take action. There would be a high cost of not taking action, which I believe is greater than the risks of taking part in air strikes."

Members of Stop the War coalition gathered at the centre:mk on Saturday as part of a national day of protest against the potential air strikes and handed out leaflets to shoppers outlining their views.

Kate Hunter, convenor for Milton Keynes Stop the War coalition, said: "We went out there to spread the message that it would be a big mistake to be involved in the quagmire of Syria and we definitely got the impression that a lot of people agreed."

More than 2,000 signatures were collected on a solidarity banner unveiled at intu shopping centre to condemn the recent terror attacks in Paris.

The banner, set up by Milton Keynes Islamic Arts, Heritage and Culture Association, was unveiled by Milton Keynes Mayor Cllr Keith Mclean on Saturday, November 21.

Protest: Members of Stop the War coalition. Inset, MPs Mark Lancaster, *left*, and Iain Stewart have backed air strike plans

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Ian has high hopes for Christmas song

BY CHRIS KNIGHT
editor@mk-news.co.uk

A SINGER is aiming for this year's Christmas number one after releasing a single in aid of charity.

Ian Roberts launched a music video for Christmas at our House on YouTube on Monday.

He is hoping it can make an impact on the charts, but also raise money for The Trussell Trust, which increases awareness of food poverty and supports food banks, and Shelter, which offers advice and support to the homeless.

The 53-year-old from Olney said: "According to Shelter, there are going to be 100,000 homeless children – it is outrageous.

"Talking and meeting with the charities makes you realise the tremendous amount of fantastic work that they do. They are lovely people doing amazing things, often just as volunteers, and it can be very humbling when talking with them.

"Every penny raised is going to help these people. Raising awareness is key, but I would also like to raise as much money as possible."

Music video: Ian Roberts want to help charities with his single

Ian was supported by numerous members of the community in the production of Christmas at our House. Students at Ousedale School played instruments and provided some of the backing vocals.

The video, filmed in Olney, was directed and shot by local actor and director David Pibworth and filmmaker Frank Scarito respectively.

Ian added: "I wanted a real 1970s sound for the song because that was the era of all the great classic Christmas songs, and I think we've managed to pull it off. Everyone who has helped has done so for free. It is unbelievable the amount of support I've had."

Christmas at our House is available for 99p from websites including Amazon and Spotify.

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PRISCILLA PRESLEY
AS THE GENIE OF THE LAMP

Sleep loves magical role in Aladdin panto

HE ONCE worked magic by turning plus-size amateur dancers into elegant ballerinas but this time around, Wayne Sleep will be working the magic on himself as he transforms into the Genie of the Ring for this year's panto in Milton Keynes.

Wayne, who created the Channel 4 series Big Ballet which aired last year, is well known on the panto scene – in fact this will be his 20th.

With an enviable background in the performing arts, including as one time principal dancer with the Royal Ballet, Sleep has a CV as long as his arm when it comes to dancing, directing and choreographing.

So why enter into the fairytale world of Aladdin, on at Milton Keynes Theatre this Christmas?

"I did Cinderella in Wimbledon with the management last year and they treated me so well they offered me another part this time around so I took it," he said.

"They treat you with the upmost respect and always put on a very good pantomime.

"It's always the same story but it's not the same performance, each cast puts their own unique twist on it and I've just been to India so I think I'll use my experiences there to bring something different to the role."

Wayne has often missed out on leading roles in his career due to his height, but on this occasion it's undeniable he has scored the best job of all as Genie of the Ring. "Genie suits me down to the ground," he said. "He can talk his way through things, he's really the most important part of the whole thing and it can't be done without him. He's magical and I love that and it will be great for the children."

Aladdin isn't new territory for Wayne either, having performed in it before at the London Palladium in the 1970s. Nor is performing in MK, as he trod the boards here as the MC in Cabaret five years ago.

He is working with his co-star Gary Wilmot, who's playing Chinese laundry owner Widow Twankey, and he has previously performed with him in the stage adaptation of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.

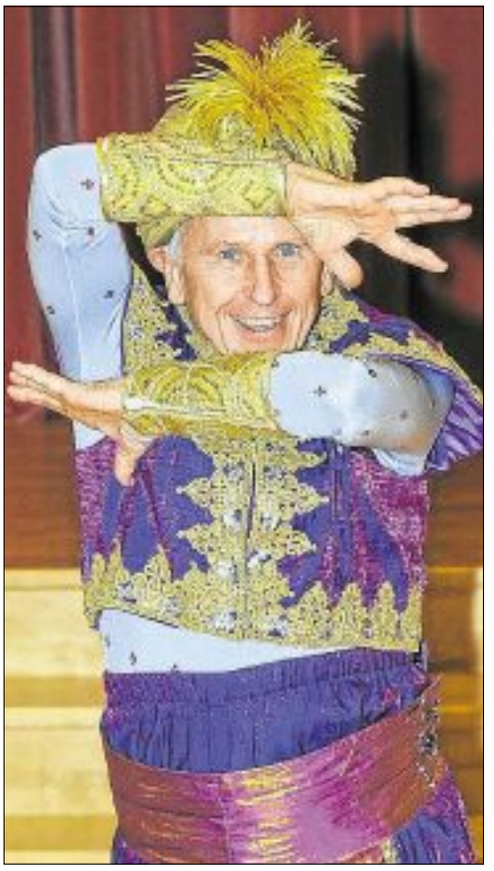
"He is such a good performer," Wayne said. "I feel very safe with him on stage and know that he probably isn't going to do anything crazy!"

With such a varied career spanning decades, is there anything that would surpass Genie as one of his favourite parts to play?

"I would love to be a judge on Strictly but I've never been asked," he said. "I couldn't be a contestant as I've got too much dance experience, that said I've never done ballroom and would quite like to try that."

You never know, one day maybe his wish will come true . . .

Win family tickets to this year's panto – Page 41



How do you (and what do you) do?

WITHOUT the cast of Aladdin there would be nothing to see on stage on opening night – or at any other performance come to that!

But the actors are just a part of a team who make the show happen. So who's that waiting in the wings…?

Russell Labey: Director

What's the most important part of your job, Russell?

The most important part of my job is to ensure that we tell a good story and one that the younger members of the audience are gripped by. For many of them, pantomime is their first experience of theatre, so it's important that we get it right.

The most fun thing about my job is working with, as we have in this case, a top cast of professionals who are all having fun creating our story!

GARY WILMOT
AS WIDOW TWANKEY
BEN ADAMS
AS ALADDIN
WAYNE SLEEP
AS THE GENIE OF THE RING
KEV ORKIAN
AS WISHEE WASHEE

A Life in the Day – the Princess Diaries

GOT up at noon, had gold-encrusted cornflakes for breakfast, retired back to bed for a snooze.

After lunch gave the corgis a shampoo and set – not sure that the princess pink rinse goes so well with their baby blue-painted toe-nails but it really brightens up the pooch powder room!

This evening, daddy organised a ball in my honour.

Had NOTHING to wear, so I threw on that same old jewel-encrusted floor-length number with my second best tiara (saving the best for a special occasion).

Danced with loads of princes but didn't get any vibes. But, couldn't help noticing a really dreamy boy hanging around in the background. He is one fit lad, a real salty potato!!!

Seems to be overly interested in cleaning up a filthy old lamp, though . . . meh, whatever.

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Balloon release: Milton Keynes Pensioners' Association highlights the scale of winter deaths among elderly people

Rise in winter deaths

BY PHILIP MCELENEY
editor@mk-news.co.uk

PENSIONERS released black balloons in front of the city's Civic Offices last week to highlight the scale of winter deaths among the country's older population.

Wednesday was chosen as it was also the day figures were released showing how many people died last winter from cold-related illnesses.

Between October, 2014 and March, 2015, 43,900 people aged over 75 died – the highest figure since 1999.

The balloons were released by the Milton Keynes Pensioners' Association, part of the National Pensioners' Convention (NPC), with balloons also being released in Westminster, Southampton, Colchester, Birmingham and Exeter.

Steve Mitchell, from the Milton Keynes Pensioners' Association, said: "We know a lot of old people die, which shouldn't really happen.

"It's an avoidable thing. Each balloon was supposed to represent 1,000 deaths."

The NPC said winter deaths accounted for 4.61 per cent of all UK deaths, compared with 3.76 per cent in Sweden – where temperatures regularly plummet to -30 degrees Celsius and sometimes as low as -53 degrees.

Age UK Milton Keynes has also expressed its concerns about the rising number of winter deaths and has offered advice to elderly people.

Paul Griffiths, from Age UK Milton Keynes, said: "We are aware, even though Milton Keynes is seen as an area of affluence, that there are actually older people in Milton Keynes who have to choose between eating and heating, so we are working very hard to try and deal with that.

"The worry this year is that the forecast is for a harsh winter. February is often the worst month and now is the time to get things prepared.

"People need to keep their rooms warm, keep themselves well fed and if anybody needs to speak to us they can call 01908 550700."

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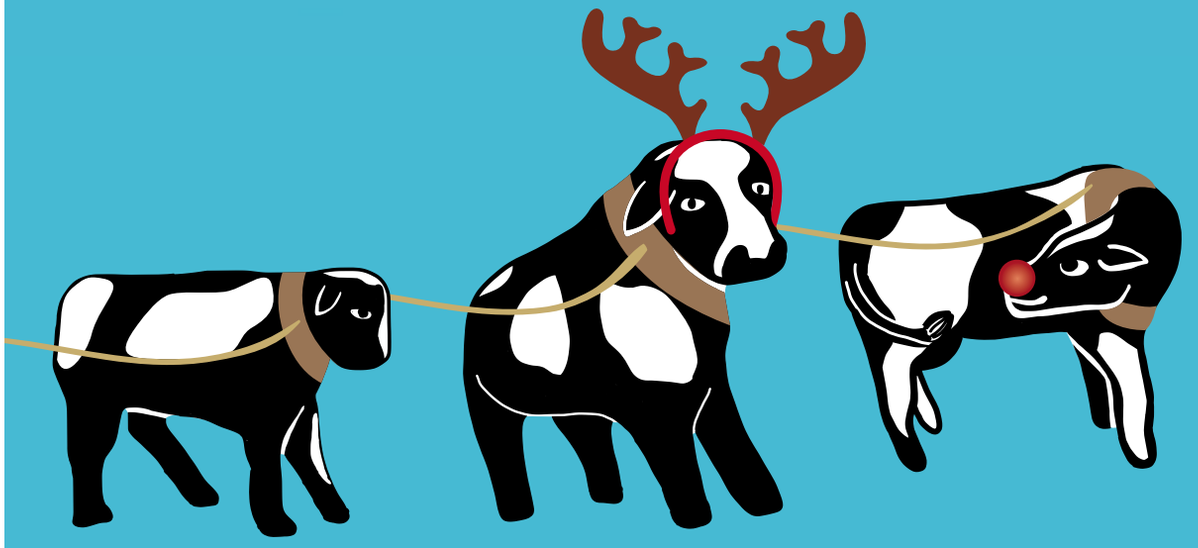

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MKBUSINESS

MK is full of entrepreneurial spirit, says business minister

BY SARAH LEE
editor@mk-news.co.uk

THE Minister for Small Business has visited Milton Keynes to find out first-hand what the opportunities and challenges are for local entrepreneurs.

The ministerial visit was hosted by the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) and saw Anna Soubry MP, Minister for Small Business, Industry and Enterprise, visit Niftylift, one of the world's leading manufacturers of mobile elevated work platforms.

At Niftylift's Shenley Wood-based headquarters, the minister met representatives of more than 30 local businesses, including Milton Keynes companies supported by SEMLEP's Velocity Growth Hub and local members of the Women in Enterprise programme.

Ms Soubry said: "Milton Keynes is a dynamic and fast growing city. From what I've seen, it is clearly full of entrepreneurial spirit and has the potential to continue creating new jobs and driving economic growth throughout the region."

SEMLEP's chairman, Dr Ann Limb, said: "We were delighted to showcase small businesses in Milton Keynes and to introduce the minister to business owners, including those from the local Women in Enterprise group, who are overcoming the challenges to build and grow their businesses in this thriving area."

The minister took the opportunity to meet and speak to representatives of many local companies invited to the event by SEMLEP, including digital and large format printers Bobcat, handbag distributor Mia Tu and Concrete Cow Brewery.

Roger Bowden, chairman and founder of Niftylift, said: "We were very pleased to host this SEMLEP event and honoured to welcome the Rt Hon Anna Soubry and our other distinguished guests to our new headquarters here in Milton Keynes.

"SEMLEP and Velocity do sterling work in the support and development of local businesses and it's gratifying to be able to open our doors to them and share this opportunity to discuss the challenges we all face in today's competitive business climate."

In the Centre for Cities 2015 report, Milton Keynes was, for the sixth year running, unveiled as the country's top city for job growth, with 24,000 new jobs created in the city between 2004 and 2013.

Ministerial visit: Above, Anna Soubry with Niftylift chairman and founder Roger Bowden, SEMLEP's Dr Ann Limb, Pam Gosal from Milton Keynes Council and employees

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MKBUSINESS

Firms showered in glory

Dynasty London: Dusk till Dawn is the only boutique in Milton Keynes stocking the dresses

Dress shop offers styles of celebrities

GET the red carpet styles of Sophie Ellis-Bextor, Ferne McCann and Kate Garraway at a shop in Olney.

Special occasion dress shop Dusk till Dawn in Stanley Court is now stocking posh frocks by Dynasty London.

The styles have been worn by Lydia Rose Bright (The Only Way is Essex), Ferne McCann (The Only Way is Essex), Francesca Hull (Made in Chelsea), Sherrie Hewson (Loose Women), Coleen Nolan (Loose Women), Nadia Sawalha (Loose Women) and Kate Garraway (Good Morning Britain).

Dusk till Dawn owner Prity Buckton met the Dynasty London designers several years ago at a trade fair and they instantly 'clicked'.

Dusk till Dawn is the only boutique to stock Dynasty London in Milton Keynes and over the years has seen very strong sales of their dresses.

A spokesman from Dynasty London said: "For over 15 years, Dynasty London have been pioneering British evening wear with styles that celebrate elegance, innovation and splendour.

"Tirelessly researching the latest trends in both fashion and luxury lifestyle guarantees that Dynasty London upholds its reputation for being the 'go to' brand for all special occasions."

■ Read more at www.onemk.co.uk

AS THE year draws to a close, MK NEWS takes a look at the city's business successes. November saw the likes of Intertek and Milton Keynes Chamber win prestigious awards, while the city's self-driving pods were again recognised nationally.

Wetherspoon pubs top roll of honour for high standards

TWO Wetherspoon pubs have won acclaim for the quality and standards of their toilets in the Loo of the Year Awards 2015.

The David Garrick in Savoy Crescent and Wetherspoons in Midsummer Boulevard, both in CMK, have been awarded a platinum star rating by inspectors, the highest award possible.

Authorised inspectors make unannounced visits to judge hundreds of toilets at sites across the UK.

All of the toilets are graded from bronze to gold with unacceptable toilets not graded at all.

The platinum rating is given only to outlets which offer "exceptional toilets".

The toilets are judged against numerous criteria, including décor and maintenance, cleanliness, accessibility, hand washing and drying equipment and overall management.

The Loo of the Year Awards 2015 managing director, Mike Bone, said: "The toilets at both pubs have been designed and fitted out to a very high standard and are both clean and well maintained."

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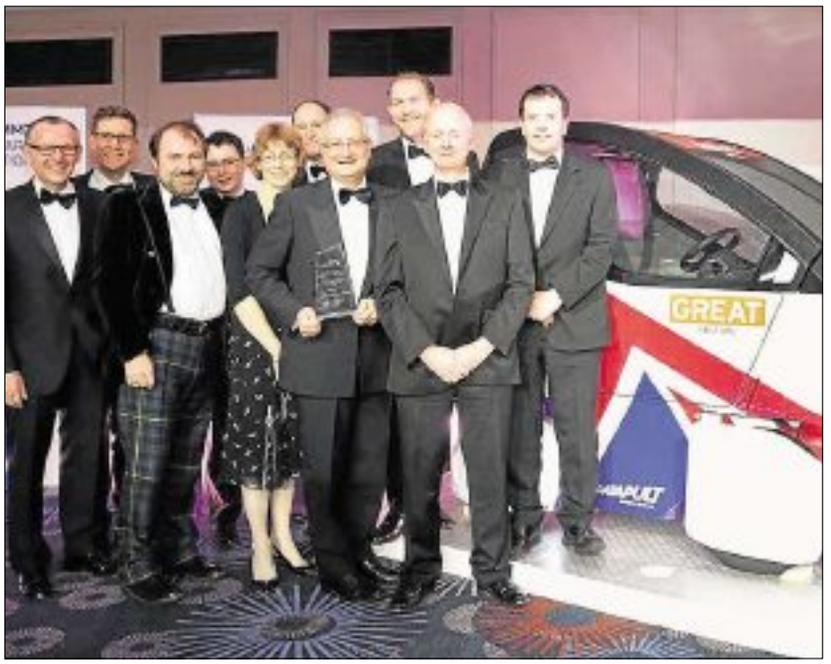
as they pick up awards



Top award: The Transport Systems Catapult team with a LUTZ Pathfinder pod

Trial of driverless vehicles 'will provide invaluable data'

A RESEARCH programme that will trial three self-driving vehicles on pedestrianised areas of Milton Keynes has won a top industry award.

The LUTZ Pathfinder project saw off competition from four other shortlisted contenders to pick up the prestigious Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) Automotive Award for Innovation.

Overseen by the city's Transport Systems Catapult on behalf of the UK Automotive Council, LUTZ Pathfinder is a collaborative project involving Coventry-based manufacturers RDM Group, the University of Oxford's Mobile Robotics Group (MRG) and Milton Keynes Council.

The three electric-powered pods will be used not only to trial the technology involved in operating self-driving vehicles, but also to assess public response to the pods in a real-world setting.

The project picked up the award at the 99th SMMT Annual Dinner last Tuesday.

Previous winners including Torotrak Group, Gordon Murray Design, Jaguar Land Rover, Optare and Ford.

The first pod is currently at Oxford MRG while an autonomous control system is installed and trials in MK are due to start next year – at first in manual mode, before being switched to automated driving.

A trained human operator will remain in each pod for the duration of the trial, ready to take control of the vehicle if necessary.

Milton Keynes Council leader Pete Marland said: "This award – from the people who really know what they're talking about – is excellent news and once again puts Milton Keynes firmly on the map.

"It highlights how we are leading the world with this cutting edge technology."

Mike Hawes, SMMT chief executive, added: "The Transport Systems Catapult should be recognised for its work in helping put Britain at the forefront of connected and driverless vehicle development.

"The trial is not only an innovation in itself but will provide invaluable data, experience and learning for the whole sector."

Chamber rewarded for excellence

MILTON Keynes Chamber of Commerce is celebrating after walking away with two accolades in last week's national Chambers Awards 2015, organised by the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC).

The team from the chamber, which also incorporates its associate organisation Northamptonshire Chamber of Commerce, attended a gala awards ceremony at The Brewery in London on Thursday.

At the ceremony Milton Keynes Chamber was presented with the accolades Excellence in Membership Services and Chamber of the Year.

Paul Griffiths, chief executive of Milton Keynes Chamber, said: "We are thrilled and proud to win Excellence in Membership Services for the second year running and Chamber of the Year in the Chamber Awards 2015.

"Winning these awards at national level is a testament to the hard work and contribution of each and every member of the team."

Intertek ends great year on high note

INTERTEK, a leading quality solutions provider, is delighted that its Milton Keynes Transportation Technologies business has been recognised as the Engine Test Facility of the Year in the 2015 Automotive Testing Technology Awards.

Winning this award ends a great year for Intertek Milton Keynes Transportation Technologies, which has seen considerable expansion in 2015.

Chosen as the 2015 winner from the many engine test sites across Europe, the firm, based in Tanners Drive, Blakelands, now boasts 28 engine and driveline test cells.

On accepting the award for the 'Engine Test Facility of the Year,' Tony Braddon, managing director of the Intertek engine test laboratory in Milton Keynes said: "We are delighted to have won this prestigious award. It's great to know that the results of our efforts, our staff and the investments we have made have been recognised by our peers in the industry."

Efforts recognised: One of the new state-of-the-art test cells

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We can grant your wish to see panto!

THIS year's Milton Keynes pantomime, Aladdin, takes to the stage from Friday.

With a cast full of household names and big stars, there is something for all the family to enjoy at Milton Keynes Theatre.

Dallas actress and ex-wife of the King of rock 'n' roll, Priscilla Presley, will be starring as the Genie of the Lamp.

Joining the former star of Naked Gun in Old Peking will be comedian Gary Wilmot as the Chinese laundry owner Widow Twankey.

Dance world legend Wayne Sleep brings his own choreographic genie-us to the show as the Genie of the Ring, while MK panto favourite Kev Orkian stars as Aladdin's wayward brother Wishee-Washee.

Heartthrob and former A1 boy band member Ben Adams takes on the main role.

You won't want to miss out on this year's magic and there are four family tickets up for grabs.

The tickets are for two adults and two children for the performance on Thursday, January 7, at 7pm.

All you have to do to be in with a chance of winning is email the name of this year's pantomime to jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

The four winners will be announced just before Christmas as an extra present for the winners.

The panto runs until January 10.

Enough Said!

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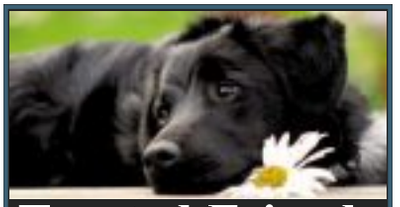

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christmassmasher

CHRISTMAS breaks begin with a day out at Gulliver's Land in Newlands, which will be transformed into a magical winter wonderland.

We've teamed up with Gulliver's to offer four lucky readers the chance to win a Christmas Smasher package for a family of four (worth £67.80) to get their Christmas off to a wonderful start.

Each Smasher package includes access to a wide selection of rides and attractions across the park, all given a Christmassy touch.

Other yuletide attractions included in the package are Gully Mouse's Magical Snow Show, a visit to the ever popular Elf School and Mrs Christmas' Kitchen, lighting the Christmas tree and Santa's Post Office. And every child can visit Santa himself in his magical grotto and choose their own gift.

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer this: Where in Milton Keynes is Gulliver's Land?

A) Newlands
B) Caldecotte
C) Fishermead

JAMES FROST, from Frosts Garden Centre in Woburn Sands, tells MK LIFE about the merits of different varieties of Christmas trees on offer

THERE is nothing like the smell of a fresh Christmas tree in your home with many varieties to choose from.

Norway Spruce is a traditional British Christmas tree that is a classic pyramid shape with a strong pine fragrance, while Fraser Fir is a slim-shaped tree with small soft needles that hold on well – it suits narrow spaces.

Noble Fir produces blue-coloured needles and a lovely fragrance to fill your room with beautifully spaced tiered branches.

Nordmann Fir is a popular tree with excellent needle holding properties and a beautiful blue and grey colour.

To give your Christmas tree the best care, place it in a cool, draft-free spot. Cut an inch from the bottom of the tree and stand the tree in water. Check the water twice daily and top up when needed.

Add a splash of winter colour to the garden with pansies, primroses and seasonal shrubs such as hellebores. Winter stems such as willow, dog wood and white stem birch are also popular at this time of year.

topcomedy

HEADLINER Markus Birdman is a comedian of the highest standard – he has toured the world, worked with the best people in the business and is a regular headliner at the world renowned Comedy Store.

Lucky for you he will be visiting The Cannon in Newport Pagnell on Sunday at 7pm.

Tickets are £7 and can be bought at www.wegottickets.com

fotheringayback

FOTHERINGAY are returning bright eyed and bushy tailed for a show at The Stables that follows the release of their new four-disc box set.

Original founding members Jerry Donahue, Gerry Conway and Pat Donaldson remain, with very special guest PJ Wright filling Trevor Lucas' shoes.

Kathryn Roberts and Sally Barker respectfully fill the shoes of Sandy Denny and provide silky smooth and harmonious vocals.

The show starts at 8pm on Tuesday and tickets cost from £22.50 at www.stables.org or on 01908 280800.

Step back in time: The Dickens of a Christmas event returns to Olney this weekend. Picture by Jeremy Rawlings

christmasespast

OLNEY transforms itself back to Victorian times on Sunday when the annual Dickens of a Christmas festivities take place.

On that day, many of the residents, retailers and market traders will be dressing in the style of times past.

With plenty of outdoor stalls, two markets, street entertainment and Santa's grotto, there is sure to be something for everyone.

A fayre takes place at the Bull Inn, Carlton House Club and Olney Centre and opens at 10.30am. Admission is only £1 per adult – accompanied children are free – for access to all three buildings.

Meanwhile, chestnuts will be roasting in a blacksmith's forge and there will be yuletide carols around the fire and tiny tots with their eyes all aglow when the season's most magical Christmas experience returns to Milton Keynes Museum.

Over three weekends in December the clock will be turned back to recapture the sparkle, fun and mystery of a true Victorian family Christmas.

Follow the twinkling lights through the grounds from the moment you are greeted by the butler with a tray of mulled wine and hot squash, through to meeting Santa in the cosy glow of his toy workshop.

Tickets cost £6 but make sure you book. Visit www.onemk.co.uk for more information.

lanternfestival

STAGED every year since 1988, Wolverton Lantern Festival is set to take place once again on Saturday.

From 2pm The Square will be filled with music and dancing from artists, local groups and schools. A parade will then leave from 4.30pm and travel the streets with stilt-walkers, circus performances, 8ft giant creations and hundreds of homemade lanterns inspired by children's literature.

If parading is not your thing, there will be a street market offering local handmade crafts, gift ideas and delicious hot food from local home-makers and small businesses.

theqemists

THE Qemists are something of a conundrum – all we know is that they're great on stage!

The band are rock fans seduced by the dancefloor, dance fans equally happy playing live instruments or building tracks on the computer and drum & bass aficionados who believe their hurtling breakbeats sound best under muscular metallic riffs.

Their debut album, 2009's Join The Q, balanced junglist-metal monsters like Stompbox and S.W.A.G., with wall-shaking dancehall boomers like Dem Na Like Me.

The Qemists play at The Craufurd Arms in Wolverton on Sunday. Tickets cost £9 from www.thecraufurdarms.com and doors open at 7.30pm.

fairytale

SCARY things will be afoot at The Chrysalis Theatre this month when Tread the Boards' production of Hansel and Gretel takes to the stage.

Rehearsals are now well under way at the theatre in Willen and this promises to be a cracking show full of music, dance, humour (including dire jokes!) and, of course, some witchy menace.

The show is on tomorrow, Friday and Saturday at 7pm. There will also be a matinee at 2.30pm. Tickets are £10, or £8 for concessions. Family tickets costing £24 are also available at www.chrysalismk.co.uk

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Women seeking men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

ALISON 30, pretty, slim with long brown hair, fit and active seeks fit older male for energetic relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 416497**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 4282 Box 419673**

LUCY, 32, blonde, tall and slim, looking for a casual fling, nothing serious. Discretion needed and assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420237**

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs. Pls call, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4296 Box 418167**

SUSIE tactile 33yr old female who loves fast cars and motorbikes, seeks genuine male prepared to live life in the fast lane, 35-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420205**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 4280 Box: 409715**

VAL, 45, compassionate outgoing female with a big heart and no preconceptions just looking for love with similar minded male. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420193**

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 4272 Box: 405297**

MARIANNE, 38, slim, sporty, fun with good personality, loves travel, holding hands and caring for people. Seeks genuine male, no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420173**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel: 0906 515 4283 Box: 413399**

DEBBIE, 43, dark haired passionate classy, discreet female looking for professional intelligent male wanting mutual companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420071**

CHLOE, pretty brunette, 30yrs good job but lacking male with a naughty side, is that you, age unimportant. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4057558**

EMMIE 28yr old lonely single mum all out of love, looking for good company with male who can tame a confident beautiful sensual lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420041**

MELANIE, tanned, tonned, young 41yrs divorcee with own flat, working, solvent, just missing a chap. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4112160**

LOVING, caring, black professional female, late 40's, WLTM a professional, caring, N/S male, 41-52, 5ft 10ins plus with Christian values for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 119332**

JENNY, 65, likes fishing and camping, seaside, gardening, animals, looking for a male between 55-80, in Milton Keynes or surrounding areas. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419553**

DIANE successful feisty business women, confident, fun, chatty, positive, social with everything but that special someone in her life and WLTM him. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420001**

ELAINE, 51, new to this, free spirited petite blonde, feminine and all women, seeks romantic male who enjoys good times, fun and passion. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419849**

DENISE attractive 30's female, sincere warm-hearted romantic, looking for male to enjoy pamper treats, hotel retreats and lots lots more! **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419837**

DIANE 37, romantic, sentimental, loves to be pampered, WLTM similar gent for mutual spoiling with lots of TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419819**

CARING, loving, friendly, sincere female with a GSOH, seeks a genuine male 60-70, for friendship and long-term relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419805**

TANNED toned red haired temptress. Now I have your attention! If you are a little bit naughty looking for someone very nice, call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419611**

LIKE uniforms? Sexy, foxy nurse, green eyes, up for anything seeks naughty, imaginative, laid back guy to get to know. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419577**

All messages received £1.50. Text STOP to 89990 to exit at any time Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged This service is not computer generated. Messages are responded to by realservice users. No meetings can be guaranteed. If arranging a meeting be sure to chose a public space and do not give personal details to people you have not met. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. Help: 0207720 7130 or email: support@jmedia.co.uk

ANN 40's female looking for male for broadminded adult fun, no strings. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 412369**

CLAIRE young 39, beautiful slim blonde, fun loving and sensual seeks similar spontaneous male for fun, excitement, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419613**

CARING, loving, good to be with female, enjoys swimming, walking my dog, having fun, good sense of humour seeks similar male. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5063098**

LORRAINE single mum new to the area starting again, OHAC, GSOH, WLTM nice guy to cuddle up with and appreciate, maybe more. Single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419415**

SUE, lovely sensual brunette, young 50, seeks adventurous, fun loving, tactile younger male who thinks he can keep up. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419381**

ANNIE, 5' 7" with brown hair and blue eyes, plenty of interests, looking for a caring loving male. I enjoy life and would like to share it with someone special, if you are interested please get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419059**

DEBRA, tall busty female, endless legs, enjoys wild side of life, seeks confident male to try new things with. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419379**

LOVING, caring, black professional female, late 40's, WLTM a professional, caring, N/S male, 41-52, 5ft 10ins plus with Christian values for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 119332**

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

BECKY 23, classy blonde, long blonde hair, blue eyes seeks loving older guy to spoil and pamper her. Discretion assured/guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 416233**

SARAH, 37, beautiful broadminded female, seeks similar open-minded hunky guy for fun/friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418167**

LIBBY 36, newly single, no hang-ups, WLTM outgoing male to wine/dine and forever be mine. Don't miss out! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419215**

YOUNG looking 37, curvy, attractive, looking for wild at heart man to enjoy fun times and cosy nights in. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 417649**

ANNIE, 5' 7" with brown hair and blue eyes, plenty of interests, looking for a caring loving male. I enjoy life and would like to share it with someone special, if you are interested please get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419059**

JULIE pretty 38yr old Irish female who is lonely as new to the area, looking for male up to 45yrs for tactile companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419071**

WENDY, long dark hair, loving and tactile seeks tall well built, young minded male who likes cuddles, kisses and lots of TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419025**

DEBBIE 48, crazy sense of humour, loves countryside, seeks similar nutty guy for uncomplicated fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419023**

DEBS petite brunette, 38yrs, well travelled, loves food and good wine, WLTM affectionate male for nice times. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418443**

JENNY 56, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418437**

FEMALE fun, bubbly, spiritual, likes nights out, seeking male for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 417715**

FIONA, 38yr old slim professional, attractive, sporty, looking for solvent mature male for lots of fun and mutual pampering. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 417761**

STELLA, trendy female, long black hair, knows what she wants and seeks smart younger guy to give it to her and have lots of fun with. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418921**

ANN 40's female looking for male for broadminded adult fun, no strings. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 412369**

SINGLE confident black female 32yrs, very attractive with a great body! Loves doing fun and interesting things, seeking a real man. Any race/age. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418003**

LUCY bubbly attractive 32yr old blonde seeking similar naughty boy to share the good side of life with. Age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418607**

RESCUE me! Marianne, 53, hard working professional female would love to be wined and dined by a romantic fun loving male. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418841**

JEANETTE, big brown-eyed busty fit size 10 with lots of interest, searching for a sincere man to share love and life with. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418839**

FULL time vacancy arisen for open minded male seeking uncomplicated relationship with slim professional 39yr old female with wicked sense of humour. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418791**

BECKY 23, classy blonde, long blonde hair, blue eyes seeks loving older guy to spoil and pamper her. Discretion assured/guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 416233**

LOVING, caring, black professional female, late 40's, WLTM a professional, caring, N/S male, 41-52, 5ft 10ins plus with Christian values for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 119332**

LUCY bubbly attractive 32yr old blonde seeking similar naughty boy to share the good side of life with. Age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418607**

JANICE, stunning blonde nurse is waiting to be scooped up by that lucky fella! You don't know what you're missing. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418585**

CLAIRE, 29, gorgeous fun loving brunette, 5ft 4ins, employed, OHAC, looking for male up to 45yrs for no strings good times and fine wine. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418575**

ELAINE, attractive young hearted female, fed up with being alone, so if you feel the same, give me a call, lets get together. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 417981**

DEBS petite brunette, 38yrs, well travelled, loves food and good wine, WLTM affectionate male for nice times. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418443**

Men seeking women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

IAN, 51, considered handsome, ex police, OHAC, enjoys karate, music, museums and art galleries, looking for an attractive caring, female to develop a friendship, possibly leading to more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420241**

DAVID, 39yrs, divorced with no ties, lovely flat in spain, seeks travel companion, single mums welcome. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4112425**

67YR old male, active, fit, likes outdoor life, seeking lady soul mate, 55-65, slim, attractive for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418097**

WILLIAM, 68, n/s, GSOH, own flat, WLTM a nice lady with a GSOH to have fun with. To be a friend and a lover, and to be with for the rest of days. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420181**

GENUINE, honest male, 45, wants to find his one true love, seeks lady 30-55, for relationship, must be in the Newbury area. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419893**

BLACK guy, 47, 6"tall, slim and attractive seeks a large built black or white lady 38 to 55 years old. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418745**

MALE, 59, xx large build, kind, caring honest, GSOH, has car and bungalow, looking for someone loving and caring, to be there for the good times and the bad times, for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419587**

MALE 56, young outlook, smart, tall, brown hair, blue eyes, OHAC, GSOH, seeks attractive female to spoil. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 250044**

STEWART 47, fit, muscular, looking for no strings adult fun, any age, must be discreet. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 416279**

40+, 6'1 tall, black man, has a job, rents a nice house, looking for a decent curvy woman aged between 30 and 40. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4919402**

WHITE male, 50, seeks genuine, loyal, sincere black female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 413261**

JAMES single dad, fun to be around with, needs a smile put back on my face, would love to hear back from anybody who may be interested in some fun times! **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419121**

MALE 66, fun loving, seeks female, any age, for friendship, romance and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419055**

48YR old white gent, seeks black lady for LTR. Any age/looks, must be genuine. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 390139**

DAVID, 62 year old male, I'm genuine and sincere, I'm easygoing with a good sense of humour, animal lover. I'm seeking a well-built female age or looks not important but with a kind and caring personality for friendship and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418643**

57YR old white gent, seeks lady for LTR. Age/looks/nationality unimportant, must be genuine and sincere. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 411467**

WHITE gent 50, seeks black/Asian female for LTR, must be genuine and sincere. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 398563**

SINGLE white male, 50, seeks genuine, sincere, black/Asian female for LTR, age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 398569**

PAUL 60, divorced, own flat, genuine, kind, working, seeks similar female. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418381**

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PETE 55, seeking a mature lady 50 to 70 for fun times , nights out and long term relationship. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4182814**

MALE seeking a widow 60+ for long term relationship, nights out and fun times. I am late 50's, active and professional. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4879848**

JOHN, young looking, world travelled kind and vibrant guy seeks NSA casual fun. Not hung up on a womans looks, size. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4844839**

STEWART 47, fit, muscular, looking for no strings adult fun, any age, must be discreet. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 416279**

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

DAVE 50's, occasional smoker/drinker, honest, open minded, seeking charming lady to put the love back into life. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 416825**

BLACK guy, 47, 6"tall, slim and attractive seeks a large built black or white lady 38 to 55 years old. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418745**

ATTRACTIVE guy, solvent, articulate, nice character, seeks lady for adult fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 416461**

DAVID, 62 year old male, I'm genuine and sincere, I'm easygoing with a good sense of humour, animal lover. I'm seeking a well-built female age or looks not important but with a kind and caring personality for friendship and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418643**

GENUINE honest guy, 5ft 8ins, medium build, short hair, not bad looking, seeks female, 50-60, slim-medium build with GSOH, genuine and kind. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 359453**

PAUL 56, decorator, 5ft 8ins, cropped hair, attractive, genuine, kind, likes theatre, pubs, seeks female, 50-60. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 366935**

58YR old male, 5ft 8ins, medium build, attractive, GSOH, seeks female, 50-60 with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 390611**

PAUL 58, GSOH, 5ft 8ins, medium build, short hair, average looks, seeks down to earth female up to 60 with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 398673**

Men seeking men

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EDWARD, 68, six foot one, WLTM a guy, can accommodate. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 420145**

GAY male, tall, slim, smooth, seeks gay male 50-70 for lots of fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 419495**

GAY male 54 years old, seeks gay male 40 to 42 years old for 121 long lasting relationship. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4732986**

MUSCULAR bi guy requires daytime meets with MK guy, cannot accommodate. **Tel No: 0906 515 4426 Box No: 418149**

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MKNEWS

PROPERTY NEWS

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

Wolverton

COMPLETELY refurbished by the current owners, this three-bedroom, end-of-terrace period property is offered for sale with no upper chain.

The property benefits from two separate reception rooms, new kitchen and utility room, refitted downstairs shower room, full cellar, gas to radiator heating via combination boiler, refitted upstairs bathroom and off-road parking to the rear.

The property has also retained some of its original character to include fireplaces, coved ceilings, picture rails and sash windows.

The accommodation briefly comprises entrance lobby, hallway, living room, dining room, kitchen, utility room, shower room, full cellar, first floor landing, three bedrooms, bathroom, front and rear gardens and off-road parking.

An early internal viewing is highly recommended to appreciate the size and potential this individual property offers.

Contact Avenues Estate Agents on 01908 317007 for further details.

Offers in excess of £375,000 are invited.

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PROPERTYNEWS

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What Your Agent Has To Say

Top tips on how to sell a property in just six weeks

SO you are thinking of selling before Christmas but worried if you can make it happen.
As the Director of VA Property Consultants a buzzing vibrant estate agency in Luton Town Centre, I would like to help make this happen by giving you some top tips to selling your house in 6 weeks!
Tip No. 1 Make sure your property is priced correctly. The best way to do this is to do some online research on websites such as rightmove.co.uk as well as speaking to agents for our local knowledge and experience. Don't always be tempted to go with the highest valuation as this often can lead to your property being on the market for DOUBLE the time or not selling at all!
Tip No. 2 Present your property to sell. The first to prep is what I call 'kerb' appeal. Make sure your property looks good from the outside, including clean windows, nicely cut grass and maybe hang some pretty flowers in a basket. Once inside your property it should be clean, tidy and take down personal photos.
Tip No. 3 Always be available. The buying process is very emotional so it is key to have your property available when buyers are ready to view. A number of house sales are lost because we (the estate agent) can't secure access to your property for a viewing at the right time.
VA Property Consultants are ready at the end of the phone/email to give you lots of FREE advice and practical tips to help sell your property fast. Our company aim is sell your property at the best possible price in the shortest time with minimal stress to you so you can move on with your life and just be happy! We are so confident that we are publically saying to all our clients if we don't sell your house in 6 weeks we will reduce our 1 per cent fee!
Contact us: www.vapropertyconsultants.co.uk 93-95 Castle Street, Luton, LU1 3AJ, info@vapropertyconsultants.co.uk 01582 346 203.

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NEW

Stonebridge Grove, Milton Keynes — Guide Price £272,500

CREATIVE ESTATE AGENTS. Desirable Monkston Park..Three storey terraced house offered for sale in good decorative order throughout.. Features briefly include: •• Three Bedrooms •• Guest Cloakroom •• Modern Fitted Kitchen With Integrated Appliances •• Attractive Lounge With French Doors To Rear Garden •• Two Bedrooms and Bathroom to The First Floor •• Master Bedroom and En-Suite to The Second Floor •• Gas Central Heating •• Garage •• Must Be Viewed ••

Dulverton Drive, Furzton, MK4 — £249,950

A three storey semi detached family home situated in this highly sought after residential area of FURZTON. Features briefly include: • Well Planned Accommodation • Three Double Bedrooms • Ground Floor Living & Kitchen-Dining Room • Gas Central Heating • Attractive Gardens • Good Decorative Order • Must Be Viewed

Tadmarton, Downhead Park, MK15 — £249,950

A superb end of terrace family home situated in the desirable Downhead Park area. Features briefly include: • Guest Cloakroom • Living Room • Dining Room • Spacious Refitted Kitchen • Refitted Bathroom Suite • Gas Central Heating • Well Tended Gardens • Garage To Rear • Must Be Viewed

Lanfranc Gardens, Bolbeck Park, MK15 — £199,950

An end of terrace chalet style home, which has been subject to recent and considerable refurbishment, Features briefly include: • Newly Fitted Kitchen • Two Bathrooms • Two Double Bedrooms • Gas Central heating • Living Room With Doors to Rear Garden • Freshly Decorated Throughout • Off Road Parking.

Hexham Gardens, Bletchley, MK3, — Asking Price £274,995

A superb 3 bedroom detached family home situated within the desirable Racecourse development to the west side of Bletchley. Local schools for all ages can be found along with St Thomas Aquinas primary school. Features briefly include; • En-Suite to Master Bedroom • Spacious Lounge-Dining Room • Integral Garage • Parking • No Onward Chain

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Farmborough, Netherfield — Guide Price £139,950

Spacious three storey town house offering excellent buy to let potential or a larger property for the home mover, looking for that roomier family sized house. Features briefly include: • Three Double Bedrooms • Spacious Kitchen-Diner • Garage Conversion Offering An Additional Room • Off Road Parking • Rear Garden

Martin Close, Neath Hill, MK14 — £229,950

BUY TO LET INVESTORS ONLY

Currently Tenanted. Situated within this quiet Cul-De-Sac is this three bedroom family home offering well planned accommodation. Features briefly include: • Good Decorative Order Throughout • Refitted Kitchen • Gas Central Heating • Rear Garden • Viewing Highly Recommended

Crane Way, Cranfield, MK43 — £219,950

BUY TO LET INVESTORS ONLY

Currently Tenanted. A terraced family home situated in this highly sought after area of Cranfield. Offering spacious accommodation throughout, features briefly include: • Three Bedrooms • Large Lounge-Dining Room • Lean To Conservatory • Generous Size Rear Garden • Sale With Existing Long Term Tenant or With Vacant Possession

Tanfield Lane, Broughton, MK10 — £185,000

BUY TO LET INVESTORS ONLY

Currently Tenanted. Situated in the desirable area of Broughton, a second floor executive style apartment. Features briefly include: • Two Double Bedrooms • En-Suite To Master Bedroom • Spacious Living-Dining Room • Dual Aspect Balcony • Gas Central Heating • Modern Fitted Kitchen and Bathroom • Good Decorative Order • A Must View

The Limes, Bletchley, MK2 — £234,950

BUY TO LET INVESTORS ONLY

Currently Tenanted. A great opportunity to acquire a family home situated in the desirable 'Trees' development in the Water Eaton district of Bletchley. Features briefly include: • Three Bedrooms • Two Reception Rooms • Spacious Kitchen • Gas Central Heating • Mature Garden • Parking • Viewing A Must

St Clements Drive, Bletchley, MK3 — £249,950

BUY TO LET INVESTORS ONLY

Currently Tenanted. Situated in this desirable residential area to the west side of Bletchley. A traditional style semi detached home. Features briefly include: • Three Bedrooms • Two Reception Rooms • Spacious Kitchen • Generous Size Garden • Gas Central Heating

Keel Way, Oxley Park, MK4 — £379,950

A superb opportunity to acquire a fine example of these sought after and detached family home's. Situated in the highly desirable Oxley Park area, homes of this quality are rarely available an early appointment to view is advised. Features include: • 4 Bedrooms • Lounge • Separate Formal Dining Room • Kitchen/Family Room • Utility Room • Cloakroom • Master En-Suite and Dressing Room • Well Tended Gardens • Garage

BUY TO LET INVESTORS ONLY

Lanfranc Gardens, Bolbeck Park — Guide Price £199,950

Mid terrace house with features that include: •Two Double Bedrooms • Spacious Lounge-Dining Room • Kitchen-Breakfast Room • Gas Central Heating • Good Decorative Order • Integral Garage • Good Size Rear Garden • Off Road Parking

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Administrator

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Whether you are a bright school leaver or someone looking for a second job, if you are interested in a role that combines administration and planning, this role will provide a great opportunity to develop your career with us.

Based in Dunstable, we're currently looking for a bright, enthusiastic and energetic Administrator to assist with the running of our large door-to-door newspaper and leaflet network. Join us and you'll help oversee the effective work scheduling and administration of a large and diverse team.

It's an exciting role that will see you involved in planning work schedules, liaising with team members on a daily basis, coordinating supplies and materials and generally ensuring that we deliver the service our customers expect. You will also be involved in the recruitment of new teams, so there is a great deal to challenge your skills. However, experience is not essential – provided you are keen to learn, flexible, have the right aptitude and are committed to work hard, we will provide full support and on-going training.

It is important that you have the ability to maintain accurate records against the pressure of daily deadlines and can work both as part of a team and on your own initiative. You'll also need to have a confident and efficient telephone manner and good communication skills.

Please email your CV to Debbie Hewlett at dhewlett@mediaforce.co.uk for more information.

Strictly no agencies.

Do YOU want to make a difference to children's lives?
Are YOU determined, compassionate and resilient?
Do YOU believe that you can draw the best from young people?

The Academy of Central Bedfordshire is a 'good' school (Ofsted, June 2015) which aims to provide nothing less than an outstanding holistic education for each of our students. If you can answer yes to the questions above we look forward to hearing from you.

We are seeking to appoint to the following positions at our Houghton Regis site:

Teacher of Maths
(salary dependent on experience)

Learning and Teaching Assistants
TTO, 33 hours per week
NJC Scale 2C + 2
£16,231- £17,372 pro rata (approximately £12,548 - £13,430)

To apply:
Download an application pack from www.acb.beds.sch.uk or email hnicholson@acb.beds.sch.uk. For further information please contact **Helen Nicholson** on **01462 410450**.

All offers of employment are "conditional" until satisfactory Enhanced DBS and qualification checks have been successfully completed and satisfactory references have been received.

The Academy of Central Bedfordshire is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Closing date: 4.12.15 at 12 noon. Interviews week commencing 7.12.15

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At Milton Keynes, we're supporting the growth of our vibrant city while continuing to deliver excellent services. It's an exciting place to be and we're keen to get the balance right - including the work-life balance. So if you're looking for family - friendly benefits and the chance to make a difference, make a move to MKC.

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

Night Senior (2 posts)

£20,253 - £22,212 pro rata **Ref: 59003706 & 59003707**
20 hours per week

Kilkenny House is a purpose-built sheltered housing scheme with an on-site care team.

Working two ten-hour shifts per week on a four-week rolling rota, between 20.45 and 07.00, you will provide supervision and clear management to a team of night staff. You will create a culture based on respect and dignity for our service users, who have a range of complex needs.

Qualified to NVQ Level 2, you will bring experience of managing and developing staff together with excellent communication skills. A sensitive and resilient team player, you will bring a sound understanding of the diverse cultural needs of our service users.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact Belinda Giannetto on 01908 506408.

Closing date: 13th December 2015

Salaries will normally start at the first point of the grade.

To apply online visit: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/jobs-careers
For an application form, email: jobs@milton-keynes.gov.uk
Please quote appropriate reference. We are unable to accept CVs, unless accompanied by a completed application form.

It's ability, not disability that counts

Central Bedfordshire Council

Central Bedfordshire

MATHS TUTOR

£28,967 - £30,357 pro rata **Quote ref: 5302**
18.5 hours per week

Add value to the lives of adult learners

This is your chance to inspire adults to improve their skills and achieve their potential. You will work with people with little or no maths skills who need support to achieve their personal goals, including functional skills maths and GCSE maths. You'll also support the planning of the core English and maths curriculum and shape the Skills for Life and Work programme.

Your qualified teacher status relating to the teaching of adults and specialist qualification in maths will be matched by a sound understanding of the needs of adult learners. Experience of teaching maths from entry level to functional skills Level 2 will also be vital. Skilled in planning, delivering and recording adult learning, you will have a talent for motivating people to learn.

To apply, please visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/jobs

Closing Date: 20th December 2015
Interview Date: 13th January 2016

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Posts working with either children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to the disclosure of criminal records.

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Please send CV to *Peter Allen @ EFM*, Unit 5, Ampthill Business Park, Station Road, Ampthill, Beds, MK45 2QW.

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HILLBOROUGH INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Hillborough Road, Luton LU1 5EZ

Hillborough Infant and Nursery School is Ofsted outstanding, with happy, well-behaved pupils who are keen to learn. We are looking for enthusiastic, committed and talented individuals to join our school team in January 2016.

You will:

- be caring, patient and resilient
- care about supporting pupils with their learning and development
- assist the class teacher with organising resources
- be capable and reliable
- have good literacy and numeracy skills.

We are currently recruiting for the following roles:

Teaching Assistants (1)

£11,458 - £12,233 p.a. **Vacancy ID: 103992**
32.5 hours per week, term-time only
Fixed-Term until July 2016

We have 3 fixed-term Teaching Assistant posts available. Hours of work will be 8:45am – 3:45pm.

SEN Teaching Assistant (1)

£6,170 - £6,587 p.a. **Vacancy ID: 103993**
17.5 hours per week, term-time only
Temporary

We are looking for an SEN Teaching Assistant to support a pupil in the nursery unit. Hours of work will be 8:30am – 12:00pm. This is a temporary position until the pupil leaves the school.

SEN Teaching Assistants (1)

£11,458 - £12,233 p.a. **Vacancy ID: 103994**
32.5 hours per week, term-time only
Temporary

We have 4 SEN Teaching Assistant posts available to support pupils with SEN statements. Hours of work will be 8:45am – 3:45pm. These are temporary positions until the pupils leave the school.

If you are interested in any of the above jobs, please come and visit us by contacting the school on 01582 725764 to arrange an appointment.

To apply for any of the above roles, please visit www.luton.gov.uk/jobs

Closing Date for all roles: 7th December 2015
Interview Date: 14th December 2015

CVs will not be accepted for any posts based in schools.
Schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff to share this commitment.
Applicants must be willing to undergo child/vulnerable adult protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with previous employers and a Criminal Record check.

We value equality because quality services need the best people - from the whole community.

LUTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

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MKNEWS

Biddenham International School & Sports College is a friendly and inclusive, multicultural school. Departments are well resourced and dedicated staff foster deep learning within our close knit learning community. In September 2015 we opened our contemporary state-of-the-art building to welcome an intake of Year 7 students who will benefit from an exciting and innovative curriculum.

PE TECHNICIAN

Fixed Term to August 2016
37 hours per week, term time only plus 5 training days
Level 1C (point range 6 to 9) £11,905 to £12,309 per annum

To start in January 2016, we are looking to recruit a flexible and motivated individual who will enjoy working with students aged 11-18 and be able to work on their own initiative and with teaching staff. The purpose of the role is to support the Physical Education Department in their day to day duties and to supervise lunch time sports activities on the school fields, astro turf and in the sports hall. Willingness to support after school extra-curricular sports activities would be an advantage.

Closing date: Monday 7th December 2015 at 12 noon. Interview date: tbc.

LEVEL 3 TEACHING ASSISTANT

Fixed Term to August 2016
37 hours per week, term time only plus 5 training days
Level 3D (point range 18 to 21) £15,491 to £17,264 per annum

A flexible, motivated and experienced individual is invited to join this vibrant team, supporting students and small groups specifically in our new KS3 provision. The successful applicant will enjoy working with students aged 11-13, be able to work on their own initiative and with teaching staff. We are also keen to know of any subject specific expertise that candidates could bring to the role. The ability to establish clear boundaries and be willing to become part of a very committed Learning Support team is essential. The working day is from 7.45am to 4.00pm.

Closing date: Monday 7th December 2015 at 12 noon. Interview date: tbc.

Job descriptions and application forms are available to download from the school's website www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk. Please send applications for the attention of Julie Shepherd or by email to hr@biddenham.beds.sch.uk.

Biddenham School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check, references and other checks.

Biddenham
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL & SPORTS COLLEGE
Biddenham Turn, Bedford MK40 4AZ.
Tel: 01234 342521 • www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk

ICKNIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL & HEARING IMPAIRED PROVISION

Birdsfoot Lane, Luton, Beds LU3 2JB

Assistant Headteacher

£50,620 - £55,951 p.a. (L12-L16) **Vacancy ID: 104006**
Full time

Required January or April 2016

We are looking for a dynamic and highly motivated Assistant Headteacher who has considerable knowledge and practical experience of leading Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Inclusion. It is essential that you have energy and passion for learning and can demonstrate that you make a difference to the outcomes for children. You will already be:

- responsible for leading learning in school, particularly in EYFS and KS1
- committed to personalising learning opportunities for every child
- instrumental in whole-school strategic planning and development as a member of a collaborative leadership team
- able to value the benefits of working in a rich and varied community
- a talented and creative classroom practitioner
- demonstrably inclusive in approach and experience.

In return, we can offer you:

- a vibrant and happy school with children who have a strong desire to learn
- a supportive and capable team dedicated to every individual, child or adult, achieving their full potential
- a commitment to professional development.

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We strongly recommend that you visit the school in person so that you can appreciate our facilities and culture at Icknield Primary. Please telephone the school on 01582 533112 or email School HR Manager Elinor Brown:businessman@icknield.primaryluton.co.uk

To apply for this role, visit www.luton.gov.uk/jobs

Closing Date: 7th December 2015
Interview Date: 15th & 16th December 2015

CVs will not be accepted for any posts based in schools.
Schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff to share this commitment.
Applicants must be willing to undergo child/vulnerable adult protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with previous employers and a Criminal Record check.

We value equality because quality services need the best people - from the whole community.

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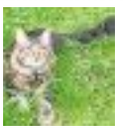
DESPERATELY SEEKING MONTY!



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Dogs

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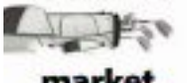

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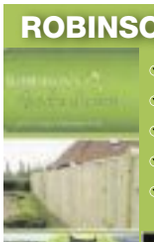

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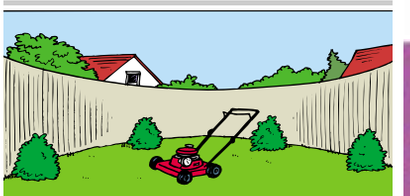

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THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(LONDON END LANE, BOW BRICKHILL)
(WEIGHT RESTRICTION) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes proposes to make an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The proposed Order will have the effect of prohibiting heavy commercial vehicles over 7.5 tonnes from proceeding along the entire length of London End Lane, Bow Brickhill from its junction with Church Road.

There will be no exemptions from the proposed Order except for emergency service vehicles, military vehicles, statutory undertakers, building, demolition and excavation.

A copy of the proposed Order, statement of reasons for proposing the Order and a map showing the length of road referred to, may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes.

Any objections to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be **made in writing** and sent to the Network TRO Officer, Highways Department, Public Realm Services Group, Synergy Park, Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 1LY **to be received** no later than 23rd December 2015 quoting reference PH-S1-TRO-139.

(HIGH STREET (PART), STONY STRATFORD)
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes, intends, with the consent of the Secretary of State for Transport, to make an Order under Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the purpose of facilitating the holding of a relevant event, namely the 'Vintage Stony 2016' which is being promoted by Mr Ray Cobley on behalf of The 'Vintage Stony' Group and the Stony Stratford Business Association. The effect of the Order is to temporarily prohibit all vehicles from entering, proceeding or waiting along that part of High Street, Stony Stratford between its junctions with Church Street, and Wolverton Road.

The proposed Order will come into operation on Friday 1 January 2016 at 9.00 am and will continue in operation for a maximum of 3 days or until the completion of the relevant event, whichever shall be the earlier, however it is anticipated that the restrictions will only remain in effect until 2.00 pm on Friday 1 January 2016.

The alternative route for traffic will be via Church Street, Silver Street and Horsefair Green.

Pedestrian access to adjacent properties and premises shall be maintained throughout the closure. There shall be no exemptions from the provisions of the order other than for emergency services vehicles and military vehicles.

The alternative routes will be signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual 2006.

A copy of the proposed Order, a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing it and maps indicating its effects may be inspected at Central Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard and at Stony Stratford Library, 5-7 Church Street, Stony Stratford, during normal opening hours and at the offices of Milton Keynes Council, at the address below, during normal office hours, by quoting reference number PH-16A-TTRO-677.

Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

(ROADS OR PARTS OF ROADS WITHIN BROUGHTON, NORTH CRAWLEY, BOLBECK PARK AND GIFFARD PARK) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 1st December 2015 made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit pedestrians and vehicles from entering, waiting or proceeding along the following lengths of road in order to allow maintenance and repair works to be carried out on the highway:-

9th December 2015

- **Newport Road, Broughton** – Between its junctions with Chippenham Drive and A421 Standing Way.
  Whilst the above length of road is closed the alternative route will be via Chippenham Drive, Lasborough Road and A421 Standing Way.
- **Cranfield Road, North Crawley –** From its junction with Shire Lane to its junction with the unnamed road linking University Way and Cranfield Road.
  Whilst the above length of road is closed the alternative route will be via Folly Lane, the unnamed road linking Folly Lane and University Way, University Way and the unnamed road linking University Way with Cranfield Road.

10th December 2015

- **Lacy Drive, Bolbeck Park** – From its junction with Flambard Close into Giffard Park to Hainault Avenue's junction with Shelmore.
  Whilst the above road is closed the alternative route will be via Redvers Gate, Brickhill Street and Clayton Gate.
- **Hainault Avenue, Giffard Park** – Bewteen its junctions with Clayton Gate and Glyn Street.
  Whilst the above road is closed the alternative route will be via Clayton Gate, Brickhill Street and Knebworth Gate.

The above closures will be implemented between the hours of 07.30am and 19.30pm or until the said works have been completed, whichever is the sooner. Signs will be erected several days in advance to warn motorists of the dates and times when the roads will be closed.

The Council is satisfied that the temporary closure Order is necessary to enable works to be carried out on the highway. The temporary Order will come into effect on 9th December 2015 and will expire on 9th March 2016 and will take effect at times during the above period **only** when maintenance or repair works are required and **only** when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs, which will be erected in advance of any closure.

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of the proposed Order **except** for controlled access to residential properties and emergency service vehicles on operational duties.

The closure will be clearly signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

All affected properties will be notified of the forthcoming closures at least one week prior to works taking place.

Please visit the Councils bus travel web page for all updates on disruptions to local bus services: http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/streets-transport-and-parking/bus-travel/bus-service-disruptions-and-diversions

The temporary closures will be in force on the date shown when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs displayed in the affected road.

Any person committing a breach of the order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

(PENRYN AVENUE (PART) AND THE FOOTPATH THAT RUNS BETWEEN MARLBOROUGH STREET AND PORTHLEVEN PLACE, FSHERMEAD) (EMERGENCY CLOSURE) 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 17th November 2015 made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be as follows:-

- To temporarily prohibit any vehicle from entering, waiting or proceeding that part of Penryn Avenue, Fishermead between numbers 117/119 and 116/120.
- To temporarily prohibit any pedestrian access along the footpath that runs between Marlborough Street and Porthleven Place from a point in line with the north-western vehicular accessway of Penryn Avenue and the south-eastern boundary wall of number 120 Penryn Avenue.

It is anticipated that the temporary closure will be in effect on 3rd December 2015 and and shall continue in force for a period of up to 6 months or until the works have been completed, whichever shall be the earlier.

Whilst the above closures are in effect the following alternative routes will apply:-

- **Road closure:** via the access road linking the north-west side and south-east side of Penryn Avenue at its junction with numbers 107/109 and 108/110 Penryn Avenue;
- **Footpath closure:** Via the footpath that runs between The Willows School and Pothleven Place, Fishermead Boulevard, Pothleven Place, and Penryn Avenue (and vice versa).

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of the proposed Order except for emergency services vehicles and military vehicles being driven on operational duties.

The closure will be clearly signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

The temporary closures will be in force on the date shown when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs displayed in the affected part of road.

The Order will come into operation on 3rd December 2015 and shall continue in force for a period of up to 6 months or until the works have been completed, whichever shall be the earlier. If the works are not completed within the maximum period stated, a further order may be made.

Any person committing a breach of the order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

(ROADS OR PARTS OF ROADS WITHIN TATTENHOE AND BLETCHLEY)
(TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends, in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit pedestrians and vehicles from entering, waiting or proceeding along the following lengths of road in order to allow maintenance and repair works to be carried out on the highway:-

16th December 2015

- **Hartland Avenue, Tattenhoe** – Between its junctions with St.Ives Crescent and Gunver Lane.
  Whilst the above length of road is closed the alternative route will be via Gunver Lane, Mavoncliff Drive and Gunver Lane.

17th December 2015

- **Pinewood Drive, Bletchley** – From its junction with Oakwood Drive to its junction with Laburnum Grove.
  Whilst the above length of road is closed the alternative route will be via Laburnum Grove and Oakwood Drive.

The above closures will be implemented between the hours of 07.30am and 19.30pm or until the said works have been completed, whichever is the sooner. Signs will be erected several days in advance to warn motorists of the dates and times when the roads will be closed.

The Council is satisfied that the temporary closure Order is necessary to enable works to be carried out on the highway. The temporary Order will come into effect on 16th December 2015 and will expire on 16th March 2016 and will take effect at times during the above period **only** when maintenance or repair works are required and **only** when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs, which will be erected in advance of any closure.

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of the proposed Order **except** for controlled access to residential properties and emergency service vehicles on operational duties.

The closure will be clearly signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

All affected properties will be notified of the forthcoming closures at least one week prior to works taking place.

Please visit the Councils bus travel web page for all updates on disruptions to local bus services: http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/streets-transport-and-parking/bus-travel/bus-service-disruptions-and-diversions

The temporary closures will be in force on the date shown when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs displayed in the affected road.

Any person committing a breach of the order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

(TAMWORTH STUBB (PART), WALNUT TREE)
(TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends, in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit vehicles from entering, waiting or proceeding along the following length of road:-

- **Tamworth Stubb, Walnut Tree** – the access road leading to number 23.

The Council is satisfied that the temporary closure Order is necessary to enable works to be carried out on or near to the highway.

The temporary order shall come into operation on 10th December 2015 and shall continue in force for a period of up to 18 months or until the works have been completed, whichever shall be the earlier and will take effect at times during the above period **only** when maintenance or repair works are required and **only** when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs, which will be erected in advance of any closure.

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of the proposed Order except for controlled access to residential properties and emergency service vehicles on operational duties.

The closure will be clearly signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

The temporary closure will be in force on the date shown when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs displayed in the affected road.

Any person committing a breach of the order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

2nd December 2015

Synergy Park, Chesney Wold
Bleak Hall, Milton Keynes

David Hall
Head of Highways and Transportation

Milton Keynes Council

The following applications may be inspected at the Planning and Transport Department, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Representations, if any, to be submitted in writing to the above address within 21 days of the publication of this notice.

SECTION 73	**WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
15/02513/FUL	Replacement doors at 102 And 104 Church Street, Wolverton.
15/02748/TCA	Notification of intention to remove 6 branches of one Sycamore tree overhanging into 7 Asplands Close at 22 Station Road Woburn Sands.
15/02879/FUL	Replace four front elevation windows from double glazed uPVC to conservation uPVC sash windows at 25 Western Road, Wolverton.
15/02897/TCA	Notification of intention to reduce crown height by 5m and spread by 3m, remove deadwood and thin crown by 20% to one Lime tree at 2 Rickyard Close, Bradwell.
15/02902/FUL	Erection of single storey 2 bay garage (Resubmission of 15/02351/FUL) at Rose Cottage, 7 High Street, Lavendon.
SECTION 67	**LISTED BUILDING**
15/02869/FUL	Installation of skylight in roof over kitchen at Simpson House, 167 Simpson, Simpson.
15/02870/LBC	Listed building consent for installation of skylight in roof over kitchen at Simpson House, 167 Simpson, Simpson.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT (AS AMENDED)
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT
(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES) ORDER 2010
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13
MAJOR

15/02828/MMAM	Minor material amendment to application 14/02883/REM relating to the Parkside drive to meet technical requirements in relation to drainage and levels at Land At Brooklands 2501 Units Outline, Newport Road, Broughton.
15/02873/MMAM	Variation of Condition 3 (Materials) to amend the approved materials plan of planning permission 14/01890/MMAM for minor material amendment to application 13/01842/REM for substitution of Plot 126 from a Hexham House type to a Falmouth House Type and minor amendments to approved Hexham House Type and garage details at parcel BM4 and BM5 Brooklands BDW Phase 1A at Land At Brooklands 2501 Units Outline, Newport Road, Broughton.

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Majestic Fjordland Cruise

Sailing from Tilbury on board Magellan, departing 21 May 2016

A marvellous opportunity to discover to glorious Western Norway in early summer marks Magellan's return to her home port, with a quartet of exquisite fjords and small delightful ports of call, including a day in historic Bergen, the colourful 'Fjordland Gateway', ensuring a thoroughly enjoyable cruise.

Following a day at sea, the Norwegian odyssey begins with the call in Bergen, where there's the chance to stroll through the ancient Bryggen area and perhaps take in the view from the summit of Mount Fløyen. A rare call at the 'Pink City', Molde, on exquisite Romsdalfjord, is followed by another in Åndalsnes, with the chance to explore the pristine interior on a shore excursion. Idyllic Hellesylt and Geiranger, in their stunning locations, and a call in remote Flåm, on mighty Sognefjord, for the chance to board the world famous Flåm Mountain Railway, complete the voyage.

Our price includes

- Visit Bergen, ancient trading city and 'Gateway to the Fjords'
- Cruise the length of stunning Hardangerfjord over 100km into the Norwegian interior, calling at Eidfjord
- Hellesylt and Geiranger are beguiling fjordland villages
- Flåm lies at the head of mighty Sognefjord
- Traditional British & International cuisine, stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board leisure facilities
- Seven nights' full board accommodation on board Magellan

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Iceland & the Northern Isles Cruise

Sailing from Tilbury on board Magellan, departing 24 June 2016

This glorious midsummer cruise not only brings the opportunity to discover and explore the stunning land of fire and ice and its wonderful, fascinating capital Reykjavik, but also to call at the beautiful, remote island outposts of Orkney, the Faroes and Shetland.

Sailing north under hopefully sunny skies, Magellan calls first in the rugged Orkney capital Kirkwall, gateway to a land of ancient legend. A wonderful five-day circumnavigation of Iceland's fascinating, rugged coast includes a cruise around 'new' island Surtsey, a full day in delightful Reykjavik, one of the world's most surprising capitals, Ísafjördur, gateway to magical West Iceland, from which Norse sailors set out to discover the New World, Akureyri, with its botanical garden, and breath-taking Seydisfjördur's stunning natural harbour, before the fascinating voyage is completed with calls in tiny, Toytown-like Faroes capital Tórshavn and Shetland's ancient Viking stronghold Lerwick.

Our price includes

- Rugged Kirkwall is gateway to a fascinating island landscape
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S-MAX – Ford's latest seven-seater – Page 59

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2016 Ssangyong Turismo Now Available

Offering family and business users a car to transport seven adults in comfort together with their luggage, the SsangYong Turismo is almost without rival.

At over 5 metres long and with a 3 metre wheelbase, the car is larger than a standard sized MPV people carrier, and is now further enhanced for 2016 with the addition of an upgraded 2.2 litre Euro 6 diesel engine. The Turismo also now offers the choice of a 6-speed manual transmission or new Mercedes-Benz 7-speed automatic.

The newly developed e-XDi220 diesel engine meets the demand for a more powerful performance and lower CO2 emissions at the same time. Maximum power is increased to 178ps and torque to 400Nm - up by 15% and 11% respectively over the previous Euro 5 diesel 2.0 litre engine. Maximum torque is delivered from a low of 1,400rpm and maintained through a wide range up to 2,800rpm for smooth, progressive driving from the start.

Big strides have also been made with CO2 emissions which have been reduced to 189g/km, down from 199g/km on the previous 4x2 manual transmission model, while fuel economy is also improved and now up to 39.2 mpg (Combined cycle) compared with 37.2mpg over the model it replaces.

Sales of Turismo are already 46% up this year compared with the whole of 2014 which clearly demonstrates that even more people are recognising the amazing value this car offers. With the power upgrade and new 7-speed Mercedes-Benz gearbox for 2016, Turismo delivers even greater levels of refinement and value.

Designed to appeal as family, leisure and business transportation, the new car blends multi-role flexibility with great ride comfort and the appointments and equipment levels of a luxury saloon.

Thanks to its 3,000mm wheelbase, the car provides a huge interior space where seven adults can travel in supreme comfort with their luggage loaded in the back, without having to compromise on passenger accommodation. There are three rows of seats as well as a large load space which can be further increased by removing the third row completely. This gives a massive load carrying capability of between 875 litres with seven adults seated, through to two adults and 3,146 litres of load space.

While rear wheel drive features on the SE and EX, the top of the range ELX includes selectable 4x4 with low ratio as standard. This makes the Turismo ELX a car you can rely on, no matter what the winter throws at you, and is especially safe and practical whether towing a caravan, horsebox or boat trailer, or when driving on snow and ice. As with other Turismo models the ELX has an impressive 2 tonne towing capability.

The new Turismo utilises double wishbone front suspension and rear independent multi-link suspension for executive saloon style ride quality. This set-up offers a quiet and comfortable driving environment with firm body control, a flat ride and optimum stability regardless of the road conditions.

The new 2016 Turismo 2.2 is now available through SsangYong dealers. All models in the SsangYong range are covered by a best-in-class 5 year limitless mileage warranty. Designed to be totally transparent and give customers complete peace of mind, 'limitless' means just that: not a maximum mileage condition that some brands impose in their small print.

All the major mechanical components are covered including the engine and drivetrain,wheel bearings, suspension joints and bushes, steering joints, shock absorbers and even the audio system. Wearable components such as clutch friction plates and brake pads which could have their life reduced by poor driving are covered for one year or 12,500 miles, and the battery and paintwork for three years.

SsangYong cars are manufactured in South Korea by SsangYong Motor, which is 73 per cent owned by the Indian engineering conglomerate Mahindra & Mahindra, and imported into the UK by SsangYong Motor UK. Established in 1954 it is Korea's oldest vehicle manufacturer and only 4x4 and SUV specialist producer.

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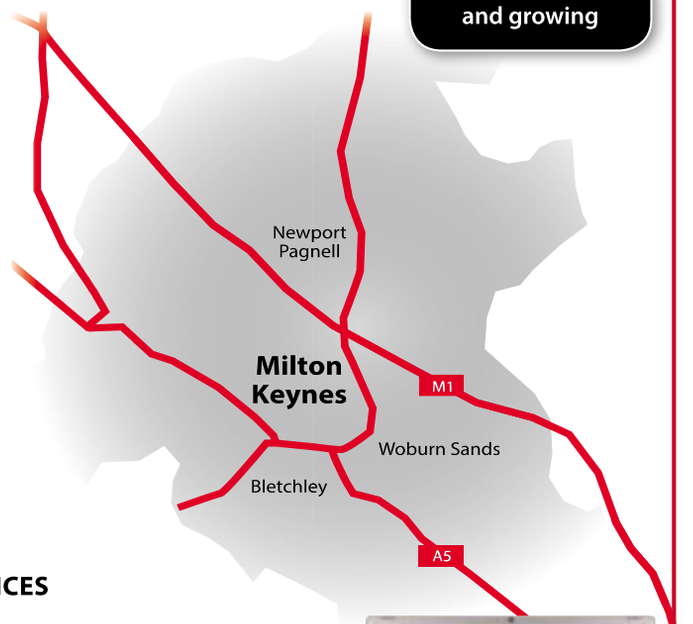

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Ford S-MAX

SMAX DOWN

People-carrying MPVs do tend towards being a bit boring. They're ostensibly big boxes on wheels and notions of style or handling dynamics don't tend to come very far up the priority list for their manufacturers. Unless that manufacturer is Ford and that vehicle is an S-MAX. Ford's latest seven-seater offers better handling, greater efficiency and some amazingly clever safety features. It doesn't look like being deposed from its position as our favourite anytime soon.

We've yet to drive the S-MAX but the early signs look good. The range hinges around a family of 2.0-litre turbodiesel engines, offered in 120PS, 150PS and 180PS guises. The 150PS and 180PS 2.0-litre TDCi S-MAX models get six-speed manual 'boxes as standard but are also offered with Ford's six-speed PowerShift automatic gearbox and are available with intelligent all-wheel drive (I-AWD). The system continually measures how the car's wheels are gripping the road surface every 16 milliseconds; can adjust power delivery to individual wheels in 100 milliseconds; and can send 100 per cent of available engine torque to the rear wheels. Need more grunt? Try Ford's latest bi-turbo 2.0-litre TDCi engine, which develops 210 PS and 450Nm of torque, delivered from 2,000 rpm.

Petrol engine options include Ford's fuel-efficient 160PS 1.5-litre EcoBoost with manual transmission and the 240PS 2.0-litre EcoBoost with 6-speed automatic transmission. Ford's clever integral link rear suspension helps enhance the signature car-like, sporty driving dynamics with a configuration that features reduced-weight aluminium components. Additional sound-deadening materials and improved door seals contribute to a quieter cabin. Road noise has been reduced by 2.5 decibels in the front and 3 decibels in the rear and Ford claims there's noticeably less wind noise than before.

There are no complaints about the cabin, Ford having done a great job of bringing a more upmarket feel to the fascia, with better materials used throughout and a cleaner centre stack. The steering wheel's a bit busy as a result but you'll get the hang of it. The seats retain the same 2-3-2 layout, this time with no fewer than 32 seating and load-space combinations, as well as Easy-Fold second and third row seats. The system enables each rear seat to be folded flat from a push-button control panel. The S-MAX now also features Easy-Entry second row seats that provide one touch access to third row seating with a new design that tips and slides the seat forward in one action. Storage also includes new covered stowage in the instrument panel top, a media storage area incorporated into the centre stack, and concealed under-floor stowage behind the third row. There's not a lot of luggage space, with the third row raised, but drop the rearmost seats and you have a really wide, conveniently-shaped 700-litre boot.

You'll have to make your own mind up on the aesthetics, but in every other regard, the latest S-MAX is a big step forward compared to its predecessor. The ethos remains the same, but the execution is a whole lot slicker. Mind you, it needed to be. The MPV market is one of the most dynamic, with new entrants and fresh ideas constantly popping up. Some may wonder whether this car really offers £2,000 of added utility over a cheaper Citroën C4 Grand Picasso, but that's going to very much depend on how much you enjoy driving.

The engine choice seems to offer something for everyone and Ford is even bringing us a Vignale luxury edition where customers can specify the trims, equipment and finishes in a swish Vignale lounge. The S-MAX deserves the big billing. It's done the hard yards already and for families there really isn't a lot better.

FACTS AT A GLANCE

CAR: Ford S-MAX range
PRICES: £24,545-£32,945 - on the road
INSURANCE GROUPS: 17-27
CO2 EMISSIONS: 129-180g/km
PERFORMANCE: [240PS petrol] Max Speed 140mph / 0-60mph 8.4s Speed 136mph
FUEL CONSUMPTION: [2.0TDCi 180] (combined) 57.7mpg
STANDARD SAFETY FEATURES: Twin front, side and curtain airbags, ABS, EBA, stability control
WILL IT FIT IN YOUR GARAGE?: Length/Width/Height mm 4796/1916/1655
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MOTORINGNEWS

Christmas Comes Early Thanks To Volkswagen

Christmas is coming early this year to Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles Van Centres across the country with the launch of a special 11-day Das WeltAuto used van event. Running from 20th to 30th November, customers will be able to take advantage of attractive offers including £500 deposit contribution with 7.7%APR Representative and flexible finance terms from 12 to 48 months when you finance with Hire Purchase. During the event, customers can benefit from a host of added value offers, such as low cost servicing deals when purchasing vehicles through a Volkswagen finance package along with service plan offers.

Nissan Exceeds All-Important 500 Electric Taxi Milestone

Nissan is leading the electric revolution with more than 550 electric taxis now on the road in Europe. Taxi drivers are some of the most demanding users with the highest mileage, reinforcing the reliability and versatility of Nissan electric vehicles. During 2015 alone, over 100 electric

vehicles were delivered to taxi companies across Europe, making Nissan the best-selling manufacturer of 100% electric taxis. The growth of the electric taxi market looks set to continue, as its popularity has started to take hold in Eastern Europe. Green Lite Taxi Kft., based in Budapest, has purchased 65 Nissan LEAFs in a bid to become Hungary's largest zero emission fleet. To power it's the fleet the company has installed seven quick chargers within the city.

NEW GSX-R1000 CONCEPT SET FOR UK DEBUT

Suzuki's new GSX-R1000 Concept is set for its UK debut, when doors open to this year's Motorcycle Live on Saturday 28 November at the NEC in Birmingham. The GSX-R1000 is all-new, built from the ground up and developed alongside the firm's MotoGP project. A brand new engine utilises technology lifted from the GSX-RR machine, including new variable valve timing, for a broader spread of power across the rev range and increased top-end output. The GSX-R1000 gets Suzuki's most advanced electronics package ever, and features launch control, 10-stage traction control, a quickshifter, ABS, Suzuki Drive Mode Selector, and ride-by-ride throttle bodies. There's also Showa balance free suspension front and rear, and a new frame. ©LW

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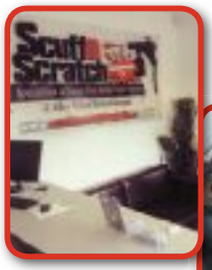

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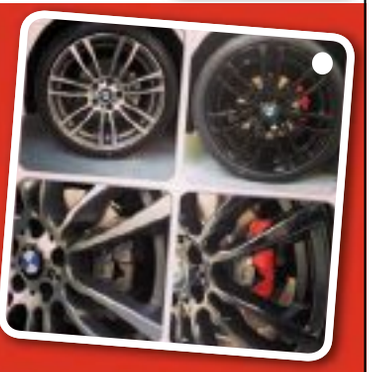

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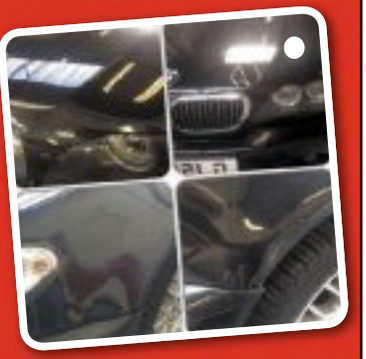

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MOTORINGNEWS

The Ducati XDiavel Is The "Best-Looking Bike"

The Ducati XDiavel is the best-looking bike of EICMA 2015. As the 73rd edition of the renowned international motorcycle exhibition concludes in Milan, it is the public – attracted in huge numbers to the show at the Milan-Rho international trade fair venue – to declare the XDiavel the winning bike out of all those on display. This was the outcome of the "Vote for the best-looking bike and win it" survey/ competition organised by Italian magazine Motociclismo, currently enjoying its tenth year of success. The new Ducati cruiser took first place with 60.78% of the votes out of a total of 11,369.

New Nissan 30KWH LEAF Named Best Small Family Car

The latest version of Nissan's 100% electric LEAF, the recently-launched, longer-range 30kWh model, has been named Best Small Family Car at the 2015 Next Green Car Awards – an award the previous generation model also received in 2013. The awards' shortlisted models were selected according to Next Green Car 's unique NGC Rating which evaluates the environmental impact of all new cars on the market. This was considered alongside other factors including capability, suitability for purpose, impact on their sector and value for money. The awards covered 10 categories and 44 different models from 24 manufacturers.

New Cherokee Night Eagle Limited Edition

Plans to continue the success of the remarkable Jeep Cherokee range of 4x4 vehicles have been announced, with details of a stylish new Cherokee 'Night Eagle' version. Based on the Longitude 'Plus' mid-trim level, Cherokee Night Eagle features black styling cues which reassert Jeep's personality and unique flair for customisation. It will cost £36,795 OTR when it goes on sale later this week. Designed to enhance Cherokee's striking design, the new Cherokee Night Eagle is limited to just 350 examples for the UK. The car's bold new appearance accentuates its distinctive style, with satin-finished grey elements on the front grille-mounted Jeep badge, the fog light frames, black gloss roof bars and the dedicated Night Eagle name badge, combined with exclusive 18-inch black gloss alloy wheels and deep tint sunscreen glass.

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DONS COLUMN

Connor Lawson posts his Aspiring Sports Journalist blog on our website. Get involved at onemk.co.uk

NICKY Maynard joined recently for free from Cardiff City and is the third striker that MK Dons have in the side, the other two being Simon Church and Sam Gallagher throughout the course of the season.

However, with Gallagher not playing at all at the moment and Church being seemingly out of favour, is Maynard the striker the Dons have been looking for?

It is too early to answer that question fully, as he has only played eight games and has only notched one goal, with Church having scored twice since he arrived at the beginning of the season.

Maynard has scored 86 career goals since he graduated from the Crewe Alexandra youth academy back in 2005.

He has gone on to play for West Ham, Bristol City, Cardiff and Wigan since then.

He is 28, so some might say he is about to peak in terms of his football career, and Dons fans will definitely hope so as Robinson's men have only scored 15 goals in the league this season.

Only Bolton Wanderers and Preston North End have scored fewer goals than Dons this season while Charlton Athletic have scored the same number.

His work rate is also evident, on Saturday against Fulham he chased down every ball and showed a lot more energy than Simon Church or Sam Gallagher has in a Dons shirt.

With Gallagher likely heading back to the South Coast, Maynard will have Church to battle with but, I and many other fans will definitely be prefering Maynard at the moment.

FIXTURES

SAT DEC 12 BRENTFORD (A)
IPSWICH (H)
DEC 15 SHEFF WED (H)
DEC 19 NOTTS FOREST (A)
DEC 26 CARDIFF (H)

CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

		Home						Away							
	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Brighton	18	7	2	0	12	5	3	6	0	12	9	10	38
2	Middlesbro'	18	7	1	1	16	2	4	2	3	11	10	15	36
3	Derby	18	5	3	1	15	6	5	3	1	11	5	15	36
4	Hull	18	6	2	1	16	5	4	3	2	11	6	16	35
5	Burnley	18	6	2	1	17	9	3	5	1	9	8	9	34
6	Birmingham	18	3	2	4	9	11	5	2	2	16	9	5	28
7	Ipswich	18	3	5	1	13	9	4	2	3	15	16	3	28
8	Sheff Wed	18	5	3	1	15	9	2	4	3	10	13	3	28
9	Reading	18	4	4	1	13	6	3	2	4	13	15	5	27
10	Cardiff	18	5	3	1	12	6	1	5	3	7	10	3	26
11	Brentford	18	4	1	4	11	14	3	3	3	13	11	-1	25
12	QPR	18	4	4	1	17	11	2	1	6	6	14	-2	23
13	Fulham	18	3	3	3	16	16	2	4	3	15	14	1	22
14	Blackburn	18	2	5	2	10	7	2	4	3	9	11	1	21
15	Wolves	18	2	4	3	9	10	3	2	4	13	13	-1	21
16	Notts Forest	18	3	3	3	10	9	2	2	5	6	10	-3	20
17	Leeds	18	1	3	5	5	11	3	4	2	11	10	-5	19
18	Preston	18	1	5	3	6	8	2	4	3	7	8	-3	18
19	DONS	18	3	1	5	8	11	1	3	5	7	13	-9	16
20	Bristol City	18	2	3	4	11	16	1	4	4	7	14	-12	16
21	Charlton	18	3	2	4	11	16	1	2	6	4	13	-14	16
22	Huddersfield	18	2	3	4	10	12	1	3	5	7	16	-11	15
23	Rotherham	18	2	2	5	12	18	2	1	6	9	15	-12	15
24	Bolton	18	1	7	1	7	7	0	2	7	5	18	-13	12

FORMULA ONE

Red Bull expect to announce deal

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

CHRISTIAN Horner expects a deal with an engine supplier to be completed over the next week which means that Red Bull Racing will still have a presence in the sport next season.

Speculation has been rife over Red Bull's falling out with Renault over the performance of this season's engine.

But now it would appear that Renault would be supplying some form of engine as the deal between the two parties has been revised.

Team principal Horner told Sky Sports: "I have a contract for an engine, the details of which I hope to be able to announce within a week."

Horner went on to describe this season as 'frustrating' after the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix brought the 2015 campaign to an end over the weekend.

"This long season has now drawn to an end: it's been a demanding year, at times frustrating but we had a few highlights, and we now look forward to hopefully brighter prospects in 2016."

At season's end: Daniel Ricciardo, *left*, and Daniil Kvyat at the end of the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, which was the final race of the 2015 season

The race ended with Daniel Ricciardo finishing sixth and Daniil Kvyat 10th.

But despite the result, Russian Kvyat finished three points clear of Ricciardo in seventh and the Australian driver admitted he was happy the season was over.

"I would love to go racing next weekend but at the same time I'm happy the season is over and I'm optimistic that next year will be better. I think we ended the season with a lot more feeling and confidence in the chassis."

BOXING

To the Victor go the boxing spoils

MK VICTORS hosted their annual dinner show at the Jury's Inn and the boxers were welcomed to the ring by the country's leading MC Bob Williams.

Freddie Knight showed his skills in a contest with Luton's Tony Price, while the club's Billy Hoskin beat E Khan from Aylesbury unanimously on points.

Faraz Abid won by stoppage in the second round, while his cousin Hamza Mehmood also won on points unanimously.

Connor Wright lost to his London opponent, while Del Singh won on his debut.

Following Del was Ismail Saddique, proving that fitness paid off when facing the more experienced E. Howe from Castle ABC with a clear unanimous win.

Last up for MK Victors was John Cawley, 19, who lost by one point on a split decision.

Victors: Freddie Knight in action on Friday night

OLYMPICS

Pupils meet London 2012 heroes

PUPILS at Milton Keynes College and Shenley Brook End School are setting off on their own Road to Rio after rubbing shoulders with some of Britain's London 2012 stars.

There were more than 65 other schools at Birmingham's Villa Park last Wednesday as part of the Get Set for Community Action national training day.

Joscelyn Murgatroyd-Barclay, 18, was one MK College pupil there and after meeting legendary sprinter Christian Malcolm and 2012 para-rowing champion David Smith, she is bursting with ideas.

"Coming here has been really good, it's not what I expected, but it's been great." she said.

Get Set for Community Action is a nationwide programme for young people and their communities created by the British Olympic Foundation and British Paralympic Association and made possible thanks to the Big Lottery Fund. Visit www.getsetaction.org.uk for more.

SPORTSSHORTS

SPORTS PERSONALITY

GREG Rutherford has been nominated for the BBC Sports Personality of the Year Awards.

The Woburn Sands long jumper won gold at the World Championships in Beijing to become only the fourth Briton to hold the World, European, Commonwealth and Olympic titles at the same time.

It is the first time he has been nominated for the award and he is best-priced at 150-1 with the bookies to win the award.

ATHLETICS

AROUND 300 people attended the 51st Wolverton five-mile road race, which is now run around Willen Lake. Kevin Seaward from Cardiff won the event but there was a good MK duel between Steve Tuttle and Liam Smith, with the former finishing fifth and the latter sixth. Mark Ryall was eighth. The Eastern Veterans Championships were incorporated within the race and Tuttle won the gold medal in the M45 age group.

For the MK ladies, Elle Roche was placed third overall with a time of 30.56, Linsey Ryall took the F35 prize and fourth lady overall.

Seven Marshall Milton Keynes Athletics Club members travelled to Lanzarote for the annual Club La Santa International Running Challenge where athletes have to compete in four consecutive races over varying terrain. Brother and sister Dan and Wendy Webber were the leading local runners as Dan finished 10th overall from 127 finishers while Wendy was placed 12th from the 72 ladies who competed in all four races.

RUGBY UNION

A MUCH-changed Olney travelled to Coventry to take on Dunlop RFC in this intermediate cup fixture.

A push-over try from Tom O'Connor which was converted and two penalties gave Olney an early 13-0 lead and another two penalties extended their advantage to 19-0.

Dunlop brought the score back to 19-10 but Olney held on for a great win.

TABLE TENNIS

THE halfway stage of the Milton Keynes Table Tennis League saw Greenleys Monarchs ease past MK Spinners at the top of the table. Monarchs now hold a two-point advantage after beating MK Powers 10-0, with maximums for Dan Appanna, Dan Smalley and Martin Hall.

Champions Spinners slipped to second after dropping four sets to MK Sasaki. Only Alan Cherry held strong against Matt Evans, Charles Philippe and Ed Simms while Craig Brown bagged a brace.

MK Kingpins beat Greenleys Kings 9-1 with only Henry Arthur stopping the rot with a win over Dave Allison.

Walking Wounded trounced MK Phoenix 10-0 with maximums from Dave Murphy, Peter Bannister and Neil Riddy.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

NEWPORT Pagnell Town lost 2-1 in the United Counties Premier League but they remain second in the table. Josh Crawley scored their goal.

In Division One, a Jack Weeden hat-trick helped Olney Town to a 3-3 draw at home to Woodford United.

In the Spartan South Midlands League Division One, New Bradwell St Peter lost 2-1 at home to Crawley Green.

Division Two saw Stony Stratford Town beat Wolverton Town 7-0, while Mursley United drew 1-1 at Tring Corinthians.

HOCKEY

MILTON Keynes beat Henley 1-0 in the South Clubs' Women's Hockey League thanks to Thea Jackson, which keeps them in fourth but just one point off top spot.

A Liam Foster hat-trick and a brace from Mikey Gilson lifted the men's team up to sixth in the South Hockey League Premier Division One.

MKSPORT
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Red Bull expected to announce new engine deal – Page 67

It's all change at Lightning as they win twice

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

IT WASN'T long ago when MK Lightning were hitting new lows with double defeats.

On Sunday the team were on a high with the first four-point weekend since mid-October after defeating Manchester Phoenix 8-4 on Saturday.

They then shut out Guildford Flames for only the second time in their history with a 4-0 success in Surrey just 24 hours later.

During the past week Lightning axed a second import in a fortnight when Marko Luomala followed Rene Jarolin out the door.

Defenceman Martti Jarventie replaced Jarolin while proven goal scorer Frantisek Bakrlik was brought in from struggling Bracknell Bees to fill the gap left by Luomala.

And both had an effect in the weekend wins. Bakrlik has averaged two points a game playing against Lightning for Bees and his previous team, Manchester. He picked up two goals against Phoenix before earning two assists at the Spectrum Centre the next day.

Meanwhile, Jarventie had an assist on the outfit's opening goal at Guildford.

The addition of proven goal scorer Bakrlik has given Lightning a more assured look up front while Jarventie looks increasingly at home in defence, giving hope that Lightning can get their season back on track.

For match reports, pictures and the latest reaction visit **onemk.co.uk/sport**

Double victory: MK Lightning beat Manchester Phoenix 8-4 on Saturday. Picture by Lucy McGill

Alli money: Around 80 per cent of Dons' fees to players' agents last season involved Dele Alli's transfer to Spurs

Alli deal forms bulk of agent fees

DELE Alli's move to Tottenham Hotspur in January accounted for around 80 per cent of the money MK Dons paid to football agents in the last year.

Dons paid £672,371 to football agents from October, 2014, to September, 2015, according to figures released by the Football League on Monday, which was the ninth lowest in the Championship.

Rotherham United spent the least in the division at £185,430.

While Dons' sum may seem high on the face of it, they would have spent the lowest amount in the division had the Alli deal not been done because Dons paid the agent fee as part of the deal.

"I don't want anyone to get carried away with our figure because a large proportion of that was purely and simply down to the Dele deal," said Robinson.

"Part of the deal was that the agent fee came from our side so I believe. When you look at everything around that, we would have had the lowest agent fee by a long way.

"We're very up front and straight with how we pay agents and they're a necessity within the industry."

The fees to players' agents includes sums paid for bringing players in, when players leave the club, and contract extensions and cancellations.

Cardiff City spent the most cash on agent fees in the Championship, forking out £2.8million.

On the field, Dons picked up a 0-0 draw with Wolves on Saturday and while Robinson is encouraged that his team picked up a point when they were not at their best, he did say that they cannot rely on other teams failing to hit the back of the net.

"It is encouraging for us but you can't have your season on the hope that the opposition miss chances because at this level you know that they're not going to keep missing them.

"It's a slight positive in terms of luck but you know that I want to be better than the opposition and I don't want to leave anything to chance."

Dons travel to Brentford this Saturday.

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